

•State DPU Gives Berkshire Zoning Exemption
SEE NEXT WEEK'S AAN FOR COMPLETE DETAILS
••Attention All Candidates: Please turn to
Page 17 for more info...

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Advertiser News

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Volume XX Number 42

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

October 23, 1997

A Beautiful Business...



FRANK & VINNY PALANGE, owners of V & F Auto Parts & Service at 443 Springfield Street, Agawam, were recently given an award by the town's Beautification Committee for their efforts in beautifying the front entrance to the business. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Mayor Forum To Be Held By Dan Yorke Show & AAN

The region's most prominent radio talk show host, Dan Yorke from WHYN News Talk 560, and Agawam's hometown newspaper, The Agawam Advertiser News are co-sponsoring a live forum between incumbent Agawam Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and challenger Kent Servis on Tuesday, October 28th, in the clubhouse of the Agawam Municipal Country Club.

The forum will be part of a live remote of the Dan York Show. Yorke's show is on weekdays from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.; the mayoral forum will be from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Yorke, a Feeding Hills resident, will moderate the forum and will be assisted by AAN News Editor Kathy Cassanelli.

The public is cordially invited to attend and view the proceedings. Refreshments will be served following the broadcast.

13th Annual Fitness First "Open House" On Nov. 1st

Fitness First Racquet & Fitness Center, located at 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, will be sponsoring its 13th Annual "OPEN HOUSE DAY" on Saturday, November 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fitness First owners and operators Kurt & Paula Welker and their professional staff have a day of family events planned, including a "Spinning Demo Class" at 9:00 p.m.; "Body Composition Analysis" from noon to 5:00 p.m.; Annual "Bench Press Competition For Members" from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.; and much much more. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., a "Kid's Clubhouse/Nursery Halloween Party for ages six and under will be held. WPKZ Radio 97.9 FM will stage a live remote broadcast from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

So, come in and join the fun. A complete listing of the entire day can be found in the regular Fitness First display ad found on Page 33 in this week's Advertiser News.

After Marathon Public Hearing, Council Votes 6-4 Against Utility

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After a lengthy public hearing rehashing two years of dialogue on both sides of the Berkshire Power issue, Town Council split along familiar lines in a 6-4 vote against building the proposed 250 megawatt, gas-fired electric generating plant on Moylan Lane.

Monday night's council meeting lasted into the early morning hours as the councilors heard first from the plant proponents and then from the opponents of the project before taking a vote shortly before 1:00 a.m.

Mirroring the non-binding ballot question that will be placed before the voters on November 4th, the councilors were asked if Berkshire Power

should be allowed to build and operate an electric generating plant in Agawam.

Like the November ballot question, the council vote was an opinion poll and not part of the permitting process that will determine if the plant is built.

The state Department of Public Utilities is expected to make a ruling any day on Berkshire Power's request for an exemption from local zoning laws. An appeal of a court decision granting the power developers a building permit is now pending at the Supreme Judicial Court. Arguments were heard at the SJC last Friday, but a decision is not expected in the near future, ac-

cording to Berkshire Power Project Manager Kenneth Roberts.

However, the court case would be a moot point if the DPU rules in Berkshire Power's favor. Opponents of the project would be entitled to one appeal at the SJC if the DPU grants the power developers an exemption.

Voting in favor of the power plant were Councilors George Bitzas, Jill Simpson, Nancy Thompson, and Chris Quatrone. Voting against the power project were Council President Kent Servis, Council Vice-President Edward Caba, and Coun-

SEE POWER PLANT VOTE - Page 2...

VOTE - from Page 1...

cilors Dennis Perry, Gary Suffriti, David Skolnick, and Joseph Langone. Plant opponent Thomas Ennis, Jr., was absent.

Mrs. Simpson said she had not seen evidence that the plant would have a detrimental effect on the town and she supported the plant for the financial benefits it will bring to the town.

"As a councilor, I'm voting yes in the best interest of the town and yes to the long-term benefits for the town. As a wife and mother, I would never support something that would harm the three most important people in my life," Mrs. Simpson said.

Other councilors, who had originally supported the plant, did not agree.

Suffriti said the issue of water usage at the power plant was his main concern. "I don't want to take the chance we won't have enough water to go around," Suffriti said.

Skolnick noted, "Common sense will direct me tonight."

Caba said none of the division in the community would have happened if the people had been allowed to vote in a referendum two years ago. "I will vote no and I ask people to go to polls and vote no on the ballot question," Caba said.

No More Conflict Of Interest For Servis...

Servis said a conflict of interest that had caused the Secretary of State's office to advise him to step aside on matters relating to the power plant no longer existed.

Servis said his problem with the power plant was the process by which it was being crammed down the town's throat, not the height of the smokestack.

Referring to Berkshire's court case challenging the ZBA's 2-1 decision denying a special permit, and the company's subsequent request for a DPU exemption from local zoning, Servis said, "The ZBA decision was 'no.' It is the duty of every elected official to protest any state board telling the community our zoning doesn't count."

Although the public hearing had been ostensibly called for the purpose of presenting new information to the public, little was added to the debate as proponents of the plant were ridiculed and jeered by opponents who cheered and clapped for the speakers on their side.

On Berkshire's side, testimony was given citing economic benefits to the town in revenue, job creation, and low-cost electricity for town residents and businesses. Also, an environmental scientist recounted the exhaustive review and approval given to the plant's environmental impact report.

Roberts said hiring preference would be given to local residents for the 200 construction jobs and up to 25 permanent jobs the plant will generate; revenue from the plant's water usage would help stabilize the town's water and sewer rates; and an agreement with the ZBA would bring an additional \$7.4 million to the town for the library, recreation and beautification projects townwide, and at the industrial park. Also, Roberts said 30 acres of the 40-acre site would remain open space and would be used for athletic fields.

A council candidate who has served as the local counsel for the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA), Gina Letellier said the vote was not against a future power plant, but only against Berkshire Power.

Ms. Letellier said some of the reasons to reject the plant included: the payment in lieu of tax agreement of \$1.2 million a year was not fair to the town; the company was not required to post a bond to complete the project for 20 years; and a lack of respect for the town, the ZBA, and the citizens as evidenced by a libel suit against the plant's most vocal opponents.

Ms. Letellier said the power plant issue had divided the town in a way not seen since the days of the Civil War and that the same union jobs promised to the local trade unions would be available if the plant was built on the alternate site in Southwick.

Rep. Keenan Plans Annual Pasta Dinner For October 29th

Please join State Representative Dan Keenan for an evening of great food at his Annual Pasta Dinner on Wednesday, October 29th at the Polish American Club on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills. The dinner will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$5 for general admission and \$3 for senior citizens and children under 12. Tickets will be available to purchase at the door.

Dan is looking forward to the dinner and encourages you to bring your appetite to this growing community tradition.

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

When You Change Your Clock, Change Your Smoke Detector Battery

Each year, approximately 500,000 home fires occur in the U.S. ... resulting in 6,000 deaths and over 100,000 serious injuries. Most of these tragedies could be avoided if smoke detectors were maintained properly. The main problem is missing or dead batteries.

As we go into the high fire season, when you change your clock this weekend, the Agawam Fire Department wants you to make another change, a change that could save your life ... the battery in your smoke detector.

A working smoke detector alerts you and your family during the early stages of a fire while you have time to make a safe exit. So this weekend, when you change your clock — change your battery.

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562-7311



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PAUL MONTEFUSCO



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JOHN DUGGAN



KATHLEEN BOCCASILE



Letters To The Editor

Let's All Do More Acts Of Random Kindness

To The Editor:

Have I told you lately what a lovely town we live in?

Well, here goes. Our location ranks highly, as we're close to Bradley Airport, the Mass. Pike, and all highways. We border Connecticut and just a few hours away are New York, New Jersey, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.

Agawam boasts a new fire station, two post offices, and close proximity to several malls.

Our Senior Center ranks as the best in the state — ask any senior. Recently, Edward Squazza's dream came true after he donated his land (57 acres' worth) for the future home of the State Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. Our town needs more "Agawam Angels" like Mr. Squazza.

Let's all do more acts of random kindness for our town — your town. Our paper, *The Agawam Advertiser News*, is news- and picture-perfect.

Agawam is a lovely town.

A joy to report,
Ed Barako
Feeding Hills

AHS Band Thanks Public For Supporting Can Drive

To The Editor:

Dear Citizens Of Agawam And Feeding Hills:

The Agawam High School Band would just like to thank the citizens of Agawam for their help in the successful can drive that took place last Saturday. Thanks to the kind people who donated their cans, the band now has some of the money needed to get it around to the competitions and provide for necessary equipment.

A HUGE thanks to Dave's Soda and Pet Food City and its workers who helped us through the day. We could not have had such a successful day without them.

If there is someone whose cans did not get picked up and would still like to donate them or would like to make a contribution to the band, call Tamara Watson at the music extension of Agawam High School.

Thank you again to the generous citizens of Agawam. We greatly appreciate all you do.

Sincerely yours,
Shawn Sherry and Carolyn Cline
Band Co-Presidents

What B.P. Proponents Don't Say Is Much More Important

To The Editor:

Too often, what the proponents of Berkshire Power don't say is much more important than what they do say.

At the public hearing this week, it was revealed that the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission has been asking Agawam to voluntarily curtail their water use for the past THREE years. Proof of these requests were submitted to the Town Council on Monday night.

Springfield, Ludlow, East Longmeadow, and Longmeadow residents have received notification requesting conservation and curtailment of water use for lawns, gardens, and shrubs on a specific odd/even day schedule since 1995. **Agawam residents never did.** The *Union News* published the information on June 11, 1997 in the Springfield edition, but not the Agawam edition.

"There is an abundance of water for consumer use, but the distribution system is old and if we don't voluntarily curtail outdoor water use, tens of millions of dollars will have to be spent on new piping," the 1997 letter states.

Mayor Johnson has repeatedly stated that Agawam will enjoy increased water and sewer revenues if Berkshire Power is constructed. The truth is, if Berkshire Power is constructed in Agawam and utilizes 1.3 to 1.7 million gallons per day, Springfield, Ludlow, East Longmeadow, and Longmeadow (as well as Agawam) may all be faced with a new and very costly expense — "tens of millions of dollars" to replace the antiquated piping system.

Why did Mayor Christopher Johnson choose not to alert the taxpayers of Agawam about the need for water conservation for the last three years?

How are our good neighbors going to react to subsidizing Berkshire Power with increased water and sewer rates?

Donna Jago
Agawam

Magovern Has Strong Beliefs Regarding Agawam

To The Editor:

Talk to most everyone and they'll tell you that America isn't what it used to be, yet these same people will defend the offenders. I ask myself, why?

I've come to the conclusion that if we allow ourselves to condemn the offenders/hypocrites, we will have to admit that we are one of "them," too. Our society does not discriminate anymore; nothing is RIGHT or WRONG. So we accept the inadequacies of ourselves, society, and government because it's easier and less painful.

But we need a release, so we learn by watching the media and reading newspapers that we can feel good about what we do and the opinions we form when we embrace the pseudo-righteousness of a party of our choice. This is where the plot thickens.

We have been taught that everyone who agrees with the opposing party is WRONG. There is only one "RIGHT," and everything the opposing party says (even if it is found to be the truth) is believed to be a ploy to disillusion the supporters of the opposite party. It's my opinion this is a dangerous form of brainwashing — think like Hitler or die!

My words may be strong, but they're not meant to offend. They're only a humble attempt to express a profound realization.

We go to the polls in November. If we, as individuals, vote only to support the icon we embrace and not the quality of the man or woman, we may never break free to reform our community (America) to one we can be proud to belong to as the melting pot we were meant to be, and not as separate prejudicial groups.

Be bold and of courage. Vote for those who do not vacillate with their promises for the sake of their political careers or those who do not stoop to immature tactics (like removing a challenger's sign and replacing it with their own). Yes, politicians need to develop faith in what they are and the fortitude to stand tall.

I am not well-versed in the political arena. My acquaintances with those involved in the political community are few. In the past year, I have gotten to know Mr. Robert Magovern fairly well.

Mr. Magovern will be running for Town Council in November. This man has strong beliefs that Agawam can be a great contributor to the western part of the state. He possesses sound ideas for economic development which will expand our tax base to better fund educational programs for our children and improve our senior citizens' interests.

I appreciate the opportunity to sound off, if only for my own benefit. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mary E. Pietroniro
Agawam

AHS Soccer Parents Assoc. Says Thanks For Support

To The Editor:

The AHS Soccer Parents Association would like to thank everyone who came out to support Girls' Senior Night (October 7th) and Boys' Senior Night (October 16th).

We would like to remind the parents that the election of the 1998 officers will take place on October 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the High School faculty lounge.

Thank you for your support.

The Executive Board
AHS Soccer Parents Association

George Bitzas Should Be Elected Again To The Council

To The Editor:

George Bitzas should be returned to the Council. He has demonstrated the qualities needed to move Agawam ahead.

His support for the youth of this town is unquestioned. He has advocated new programs to thwart the use of drugs among our youth. He is proactive and not reactive. His advocacy for education, open spaces, the elderly, veterans' services, and the beautification of Agawam is well-documented.

He conducts himself with dignity and decorum at council meetings, listens to others' points of view, and doesn't descend to pettiness or snide remarks.

He is for Agawam and its people. He works hard and is intelligent and caring.

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Monday, October 27th
Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter of AARP
At Agawam Senior Center
1:00 p.m.

Monday, October 27th
Meeting of Agawam District Learning Team (DLT)
At Agawam Junior High cafeteria
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 28th
Annual "Health Expo" at the
Agawam Senior Center
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Call 789-7199 for more information

Monday, November 3rd
Agawam Lioness Club
At Partners Restaurant, Springfield Street
Cocktails: 6:30 p.m.; dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Call 786-9586

Friday, November 7th
"Friday Friday Series" to present
watercolor demonstration by Edward Minchin
At Agawam Public Library
7:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public
(a reception for the Agawam Community
Artists will precede the program at 6:30 p.m.)

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Return George to the council so he can continue serving Agawam in a positive way.

We are fortunate to have such a fine man of integrity working so hard for us. Let's show our appreciation for his efforts and return him to the council.

Marion Brindle
Agawam

Berkshire Power: How Did We Get To Where We Are Today?

To The Editor:

Berkshire Power was invited to Agawam by our Mayor, Christopher C. Johnson. He then conceived a scheme to project the acceptance of the community. He set up meetings with the council members in groups of three. He made his presentation with the information that was known at the time. He then asked councilors to sign an acceptance of his plan.

He met with his department heads and did the same. He also presented his plan to the School Committee and to the Superintendent of Schools. All signed his letter indicating support for this project.

This is what was considered a vote of acceptance and used as a commitment for the town.

What's missing? There never was a public meeting or any public input as to whether or not the citizens of this town were in favor of this project. By this scheme to deceive the public, Berkshire Power now proceeded to use this letter to convince the Energy Siting Board, the courts, and the Department of Public Utilities (and whoever else that might be involved) that you and I, the taxpaying citizens of this town, had unanimously accepted their plan to locate in our town. This was a well-thought-out and intentional plan to deceive the public.

There have been previous attempts to bring this to a vote and it was stalemated by the same members of the Town Council each time. It appears that this town has been victimized by our own Mayor and his supporters.

As it has been said in the past, you can run but you cannot hide. You councilors must face the moment of truth and declare where you stand on this issue with a YES or NO vote, or present the

voters with another cop-out.

Now that the facts are known (unlike when you were asked to sign the Johnson letter of support), it is up to you to take an official vote on a non-binding citizens petition as to whether or not you support a company that has said they wouldn't go where they weren't wanted.

When in the history of Agawam has there been a business so good for the town that they had to buy their way in?

When have we been blessed with such good neighbors that they initiated a SLAP SUIT against the citizens in an attempt to shut them up?

When have we had a company attempt to bribe, coerce, and intimidate the citizens of our town?

I think by now that it is up to you, the council, to declare if you are going to uphold your oath of office or ignore it as you have done in the past.

NEWS FLASH: At the Monday night council meeting that lasted until 1:00 a.m., the council voted 6-4 not to endorse Berkshire Power's plan to locate in the Town of Agawam. Councilors voting against the plan were Caba, Skolnick, Langone, Suffriti, Perry, and council President Kent Servis.

Those voting in favor of Berkshire Power were the same four who have consistently voted in a block to deprive you of your right to vote on a referendum question and have supported the Mayor in not defending the laws of Agawam. The four supporters were Councilors Bitzas, Thompson, Simpson, and Quatrone.

And the day of reckoning is just around the corner - Tuesday, November 4th.

Voters of Agawam - please get out and vote unless you want more of the same irresponsible government.

Thank-you,
Peter Longo
Agawam

David Skolnick Continues To Be Voice Of Reason

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my husband, David Skolnick, who is running for re-election to the City Council.

I urge the voters of Agawam to re-elect him, as he has been a voice for reason on the Council throughout his tenure.

Councilor Skolnick always votes on the merits of the issues and for what is best for Agawam. Councilor Skolnick has been saluted as an outstanding "servant of the public" by Springfield Television, WWLP, Channel 22.

David has served the community in many capacities over the years. Some of his service includes being the Agawam High School Guidance Director, and Director of Work Study, Distributive education and job placement. He has served the Agawam School Department as a certified school psychologist.

He has been President of Henry Lasker Shalom Lodge of B'Nai B'Rith, and has been the Potentate of the Melha Temple of Shriners. He was the President and Founder of the Robinson Park Elementary School PTA. He also served as the President of the Agawam PTA Council, President of the Agawam Education Association, President of the Agawam Trestle Board, and Chairman of the Agawam Democratic Committee.

If you want a Councilor who is willing to put the people of Agawam first, who truly envisions Agawam as a wonderful place in which to live, then vote for David Skolnick.

Sincerely,
Barbara Skolnick
Agawam

Why Is Johnson Dodging The Berkshire Power Issue?

To The Editor:

Mayor Johnson mailed flyers to the citizens of Agawam before the October 7th primary. He stated, "I want to make Agawam the best place in the Pioneer Valley to live, work, and raise a family."

Yet, Mayor Johnson, you proudly promoted a gigantic, polluting, drinking water-guzzling power plant to be located in the middle of our community near schools, homes, churches, and nursing homes.

Two years ago, he boasted about bringing Berkshire Power to Agawam, yet he has not once mentioned the power plant issue in any of his paid political ads, in the press, or in his political flyers.

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...



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Coupon Not Valid On Holidays

Wednesday and Thursday Only

Save \$5.00

With This Coupon

On Dinner For 2 Totaling \$20.00 Or More

This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.

LETTERS - from Page 5...

The City Council held a Public Hearing on October 20th on the Berkshire Power issue. As a citizen, he had a right to attend and, as the Mayor, he was officially invited by the City Council and he chose not to. Isn't this the biggest issue facing Agawam?

Why isn't the Mayor boasting now? Why is he avoiding this issue? Is he worried if he speaks out now it will hurt his campaign and the citizens of Agawam will not "REWARD HIS BEHAVIOR" on Election Day?

Sincerely,
Judy Stieg
Agawam

Johnson Addresses Criticisms
Made By Mayoral Opponent

To The Editor:

To The People Of Agawam:

When you seek re-election to public office, you expect that your opponent will scrutinize your record of service and indicate their ideas on how to improve upon it. It is unfortunate when some decide to distort it, misstate it, and outright fabricate it.

My opponent last week moved away from his initial promise of "a campaign devoid of mudslinging or false innuendo or any other type of dirty campaign tactic" when he issued his press statements attacking my candidacy.

The following are simple corrections to the incorrect information contained in his statements:

Councilor Servis said, "Your tax rate may have remained the same or even been slightly reduced, but look at the assessed value of your home."

FACT: Since I have held the office of Mayor of Agawam, the town has conducted three state-mandated property revaluations (FY91, FY94, and FY97); in all three revaluations, the overall valuation of the community (not including new growth) dropped.

Councilor Servis said, "Compare your water and sewer bills to those of just eight short years ago."

FACT: Since I have held the office of Mayor of Agawam, the Town Council has increased sewer rates only once in 1990 (seven years ago) and it has not increased water rates (in fact, water rates were reduced in 1991).

Councilor Servis said, "During Chris's four

terms in office, our town's annual budget skyrocketed to more than double the size of the budget when he took over!"

FACT: When I first took office, the town's annual budget was slightly over \$30 million per year. Our current budget is slightly over \$45 million.

Councilor Servis said, "Just wait until next year when we, the taxpayers, have to start paying off the bonds on the new fire station, the golf course, the school additions, and Tuckahoe."

FACT: The town started paying off the bond on the new fire station and Tuckahoe with this year's budget (Kent voted for this year's budget). The bond for the acquisition and improvement of the golf course is paid for entirely by revenues generated by the course, and we started paying that bond with last year's budget (Kent voted for last year's budget).

The town is entitled to 71 percent reimbursement from the state for all five school building projects, and all the town's capital improvement projects are laid out in its annual five-year capital improvement plan which Kent voted to approve both years he has been on the council.

I could go on and correct the many other distortions, misstatements, and outright fabrications of my record that my opponent has chosen to make, but I think you get a good idea of the accuracy of his statements.

I have always and will continue to run a positive campaign based on a platform of positive accomplishment and a vision for our community's future. I fully expect and welcome scrutiny of my record of service to the people of Agawam.

It may have its high points and its low points, but it is full of hard work for what is in the best interests of Agawam. It simply disturbs me when candidates for public office resort to twisting the truth in an effort to mislead the public.

Very truly yours,
Christopher C. Johnson
Mayor

It's Time For A Change—
Vote For William Euliano

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter in support of William Euliano in his bid for a seat on the Agawam City Council.

For the past two years, I have had the pleasure of working with Bill in his capacity as the Chairman of the Agawam Board of Health. He has proven to be an individual who does his homework and works from strength.

Bill is not one to "shoot from the hip" and ask questions later. He has served as chairman for the past 12 years, and his record of public service speaks for itself. He has been consistent in his decisions and has not been afraid to address difficult issues.

I am confident that Bill would continue to provide the same strong leadership and sound judgment to the City Council as he has provided to the Health Department.

I encourage the voters of Agawam to consider Bill Euliano for City Council on November 4th.

Sincerely,
Randall G. White
Agawam Health Agent

Magovern Will Help Agawam
Reach Its Maximum Potential

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter in support of Bob Magovern in his race for City Council.

I have known Bob for most of his life. I knew his parents, John and Dorothy Magovern, well. Both John and Dorothy were active in community and church activities.

They gave back to their communities, and that is the way they raised their children. I remember Bob when he was active in his high school and Agawam YMCA programs.

I was pleased when he moved back to his hometown of Agawam and immediately started getting active in town affairs by serving on the Conservation Commission and becoming his church's historian. He carried on his family's tradition by trying to do what he could.

I know he will do a good job as city councilor. His desire comes naturally. Bob's mother's family, the Bodurthas, helped found Agawam in the early 1700's. He wants to see Agawam reach its maximum potential.

I will be supporting Bob Magovern. I hope you will be, too.

Rita Moore
Agawam

SEE LETTERS -
continued to Page 7...

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★★ JESSIE FULLER ENDORSES QUATRONE ★★



To the People of Agawam,

I am writing to urge you to support Chris Quatrone in his bid for re-election to the Agawam Town Council. As an active senior citizen and a former town council and school committee member, I can attest to Chris' commitment to our town. Chris works hard and has distinguished himself as a new member on the Council. We need more councilors like Chris and we can't afford to lose him. Please vote for Chris Quatrone on Tuesday November 4th.

Jessie D. Fuller
Jessie D. Fuller

Chris Quatrone

Agawam City Council

A Voice of Reason & Responsibility

Paid for by the Citizens for Christian M. Quatrone

Re-Elect

Re-Elect

Roberta G. Doering
for
School Committee



Pull
Lever
29 A

Pull
Lever
29 A

I believe the School Committee:

- Should develop a clear vision for our public schools.
- Should establish an organization framework that allows students to attain their maximum potential.
- Is accountable to the community for accomplishing its vision.
- Should serve as the leading advocates on behalf of students and the public schools.

Dedicated • Experienced • Qualified

Paid for by Dr. James A. Doering
915 River Road

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LETTERS - from Page 6...

Agawam's Veterans' Agent Says Thanks To Large Cast

To The Editor:

While it is not possible to express in words the appreciation we feel toward Edward Squazza for providing the land needed for the first Massachusetts State Veterans' Cemetery, his generosity has brought out the best in people across the state.

The Cemetery Steering Committee worked hard in putting together the special ceremony witnessed by a thousand people last week. It seems that every person and every business contacted wanted to help, wanted to be a part of making this groundbreaking something really special, and they succeeded.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the following:

The generous contribution of land for the cemetery by Edward Squazza; the United States Air Force Band of Liberty, Major Alan Sierichs, Commander and Conductor; Commanders, Presidents, Commandants, and Executive Officers of all veteran membership organizations and their auxiliary presidents for their support and participation; members of the Armed Forces color guards for their participation and presentation of colors; the Agawam High School Band, Frank Ameruso, Superintendent of Schools, Tammy Watson, Band Director; Eastern States Exposition for their donation of bleachers; Home Depot, Manager William Alstrom, for the donation of shovels and paint.

Sentry Cleaners, Neil O'Leary, for the donation of flags and decoration bunting for the ceremonial area; Western Mass. Electric Co., James St. Germain, for electricity to the cemetery entrance; Riverside Park, William Muirhead, Duncan MacGilvray, and Dorothy Piteo, for the use of "The Grove," parking areas, and sanitary facilities; Peter Pan Bus Lines, Peter Picknelly, Sr. and Jack O'Neill for the shuttle transportation and cellular communications.

VFW Post No. 1632 and American Legion Post No. 185 for the use of their facilities; Agawam Police Department, Chief Robert Campbell, for security and safety control; Agawam officials, DPW, Building, Assessors, and Engineering Departments, and the Office of Planning & Community Development for their support; Dinn Brothers Trophies for the engraving of groundbreaking shovels; the L.A. Group Architectural & Engineering Design Firm, Joe Sporko and Jeff Anthony; LandUse, Inc., Site Selection Consultant, Jeanne Armstrong, President, and Peter LaBarbera; Cambridge Seven Associates, Inc., Cemetery Design Firm, Peter Kuttner and Lena Kozloski; Fast Signs of West Springfield, George Smarz and Joe Anderson, for the donation of the "Future Home" sign; COSTCO, and American Legion Post No. 207 of West Springfield, for the donation of food.

Nissen of Agawam and MCDI, Gerald Phillips, for the donation of food; West Springfield Music Parents for the donation of two-way radios; Chapter III VVA for the donation of the electrical generator, and POW/MIA flag; Beaver Camper Service of Agawam and West Springfield Police Dept. for the donation of security trailers; Major Richard E. Rosa, Commander, Site Support Element, 4th Marine Air Craft Wing; Taylor Rental, Agawam, for the donation of chairs.

Awards Company, Jeffery Barbeau, for the donation of entrance flag; Massachusetts Veterans' Services Agents Association for their continued support; Westover Air Reserve Base for the donation of the speakers' platform, PA system, and bleachers; Agawam Fire Department, David Pisano, Chief, for the donation of ambulance service; C&S Wholesalers, Brattleboro, VT, Mari Beth Laird, & Donald F. Humason, for the donation of food; Grand Army of the Republic Trustees, Springfield, for the donation of the entrance flag pole; Michael A. Leahy Co. for the donation of labor and equipment for the electrical service; Bay State Plumbing Supply, James Zick, for the donation of PVC/flag pole tubes; and Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services staff for their support.

The Groundbreaking Ceremony Committee included Derek Barlow, John Beal, Ruth Carr Bitzas, Helen L. Boissonneault, Marilyn Bolaske, Pauline R. Brown, Sidney H. Chernick, Bernadette Conte, Paul J. Danehey, John Franchi, Michael F. Granger, Amy Hosmer, Ted Knee, Charles Loven, Manel Lopes, Robert C. McKean, Dianne M. Moreau, Marshall R. Mudge, Jr., Jay O'Sullivan, Peter Pappas, Priscilla Peterson, Emile J. Rattell, Major Richard Roa, Sgt. Maj. Anibal Saunders, Jr., Daniel Schaffer, Martin F. Spellacy, Robert D. Sweeney, and Daniel M. Walsh III.

We also appreciate the assistance of Ric Sardella, *The Agawam Advertiser News*, and Jack Devine for photo coverage; Louis Russo for his help in setting up ceremonial site for groundbreaking; Ed Kellogg, President Agawam Veterans' Council; Alvin Kellogg and Dennis Buell for the Street of Flags; and Thorpe's Office Supply

for all their assistance throughout the week.

The success of the day was accomplished through a statewide team effort, and we're proud of all who helped.

Ruth Carr Bitzas
Agawam Veterans' Agent

Let's Start 1998 With Some New Leadership In Town

To The Editor:

I have been around Agawam politics for quite some time. I have never really gotten involved. Ed (Caba) has been involved forever, it seems.

When I see what is going on and what some people will do to get ahead just sickens me. I guess that made me decide to write this letter.

We have some very good city councilors in there now. They realize that it was the people who put them in there. They are trying to do their job, but when you get four city councilors that think they are working for the mayor, and are pulling in the opposite direction, it gets very hard to accomplish anything. I guess Quatrone's reason might be that the mayor endorsed him in the last election. I'm not sure what the reasons are for Bitzas, Thompson, and Simpson.

When Berkshire Power came upon the scene, they said they would leave if they were not wanted; they had other places to go. Three years later (and thousands of dollars being spent), they are still here fighting to get in. Why? When it was suggested by some councilors to let the people vote on this issue, the famous "three" (Bitzas, Quatrone, and Thompson) voted against it. They took your right to vote on such an important issue away from you. Why? They were willing to go along and put the casino on the ballot.

There is also some talk to put the reduction of city councilors on the ballot. This is foolish, though I guess it would be easier to manipulate seven instead of 11 councilors. When council president Servis took a vote to send Berkshire Power a letter asking them to drop the lawsuit they have against some citizens in town, Thompson abstained. Why? What harm would there be in sending a letter? I don't call that working for the people. Do you?

I don't recall how her buddies voted. They usually follow the leader. The biggest joke of them all is 3½ years later, and about three months before the election, they finally realized that the people wanted it on the ballot. What took them so long? Could it be that the election is around the corner?

Don't be fooled by these four councilors. Are these the kind of city councilors you want? Not me. There are so many things you could pick up on and wonder about. The Board of Appeals, for instance; look what they went through because they would not give in to the mayor. I'm sure there are a lot of unhappy campers at the town hall (I still refer to it as the town hall).

Take a look at some of our citizens who expressed their opinions about the power plant. Their businesses were picketed. One fella had to be quiet because he was afraid his business

would suffer. He had a family to support. It's a sad day when you can't express your opinion without suffering the consequences.

Some of the people that are running for council say they want to stop the fighting and bickering. Don't we all? How are they going to do that? Are they going to pass everything he wants and let him veto everything that doesn't suit him. We don't need any more councilors like that. We already have four of them.

We are losing a good councilor, Thomas Ennis. He was not afraid to speak up. We need more like him. I think Louis Russo, Karl Stieg, Gina Letellier, and Mike Del Negro would fit the bill. There are a few more there that could do the job. I hate to think what would happen if we don't make a change.

Two terms with Johnson and his four buddies is quite enough. Remember the good ones that we have in there now. We cannot judge them because we had a few that did not do their job. When you get ready to cast your ballot, think about the power plant that was not able to get on the ballot, the citizens whose businesses were picketed, and the lawsuits against the people who pay taxes here.

Ask yourself if this is fair. Be honest. Let's start 1998 with a new leader and a few more good councilors. Maybe then we can get down to business and get something done.

In closing, I want to say Ed had nothing to do with me writing this letter. Perhaps if he told me to write it, I wouldn't have.

Thank you,
Marge Caba
Agawam

TPCPAC Seeks To Promote Open & Honest Government

To The Townspeople And Editor:

Taxpayers for Positive Change Political Action Committee (TPCPAC) filed its statement of organization with the Town Clerk's office on the date of October 20, 1997, in order to promote the goal of open, honest, ethical, democratic, and environmentally responsible city government.

Towards that end, TPCPAC will work against passage of the November 4th ballot question, and will actively promote the candidacies of those candidates we believe have worked hardest to meet our goals for city government. We hope also to correct misinformation about the records of any such candidates, and so will correct any misimpressions arising in this campaign season.

Being organized as a political action committee, for instance, we do have some familiarity with election finance laws. Some have suggested, in prior letters, that certain candidates supported by TPCPAC may, due to conflict of interests, be prohibited by law from taking any stance vis-a-vis Berkshire Power.

How General Laws may regulate the votes of such candidates, if elected, is a question easily solved by phoning the State Ethics Commission

SEE LETTERS - Page 8...

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MAKE THE CHANGE TO JOHN NEGRUCCI



John, Cyndi, and their grandchildren.

**VOTE FOR
STABILITY
AND
RESPECT
ON
NOVEMBER 4TH**

Elect **NEGRUCCI**
For **COUNCIL**

*Paid for by the Negrucci Committee
Anthony C. Bonavita, Chairman*

- * Former Union Pension Fund Administrator
- * Former President Of Agawam Lions Club
- * Three Children Graduated From Agawam School System

LETTERS - from Page 7...

at 727-0060. The voter can therefore determine the truth in any such charges re: parties in a lawsuit. With respect to the ballot question, specifically, candidates and elected officials can oppose or support any ballot question at will, and are prohibited by c.268A (the conflict of interests law) within our General Laws only from the use of public funds to support their position.

Certainly, c.268A does not in any way prohibit an elected official from making any vote affecting his or her previous employer. For instance, attorneys previously retained by certain advocacy groups are not in any way prohibited from making any votes affecting members of that advocacy group, and especially not when all accounts between them are settled. A lawyer no longer retained is a lawyer who no longer faces that possible conflict of interests.

In the spirit of promoting honest and ethical government, especially, then, TPCPAC is expecting honest and ethical campaigning from all candidates. In fact, we demand it, and will alert the voter to when that spirit is violated. A candidate can hardly support our goals in government if they fail to meet our goals in their campaigns.

TPCPAC will in the near future detail for voters the record of incumbent officials on critical issues over their tenure, just as we will detail for the voters how challengers have addressed those issues. We will address issues relating to the Berkshire Power debate, and we will address issues of accountability, fairness, open communication, and personal honesty besides.

We need and desire help from every caring person in our community who may be concerned about these issues. Please call Owen Broadhurst at 786-1508 for details.

We thank you very much, and our city will thank you later.

Sincerely,
Owen Broadhurst
Treasurer, TPCPAC
Agawam

Servis Campaign Is Ready For November 4th Election

To The Editor:

The "Servis for Mayor" campaign begins its last preparations for the general election in November in an upbeat mode. With a low vote turnout on October 7th, I believe we fared well.

For the first time since Chris Johnson has been Mayor, he was defeated in three precincts on a total number of votes combined from all the other candidates. The Mayor received only 52 percent of the vote, his lowest percentage in eight years.

There was also a large number of Republican voters. There is no doubt Chris pushed hard in that area.

I'm hoping the voter turnout in November will be much larger. Agawam residents, please remember there is non-binding referendum question on the ballot on the Berkshire Power Plant. We as a community still have the right to express our feelings on whether we should have the

Berkshire Power Plant or not.

If you remember, we voted on a corrections facility and a casino. Make your voice heard and send a message. We as a community should decide on issues such as this that are going to impact our lives in Agawam. We should vote and make our position heard. The Mayor has had no right to deny us.

The Agawam voter should also note that the Mayor has kept taxes down once again, but it's an election year. Do the Agawam residents know their taxes are going up in 1998? Probably not, but they are.

Please keep in mind the bonds we received will have to be paid starting in 1998. I'm not looking for my taxes to go up, but this is a reality. If the Mayor says no increase in taxes, he is misleading you.

Another issue I would like to touch on is a recreational facility for youths of all ages in Agawam. Kent Servis has made a campaign promise to make this a reality.

The Mayor wants to build a sports complex at the Tuckahoe Turf Farm. This is not a reality! My children and yours will never see this develop. There is just no way the Mayor can produce this.

Agawam needs a recreational facility similar to the one in Southwick. This facility needs to be accommodating to youths and serve the purpose of developing programs for youths.

On November 4, 1997, we will go to the polls and decide on whether it's time for a change. Eight years is certainly plenty of time for one Mayor.

If you have children and you're not happy with the services they receive, then all I can ask you is to vote for Kent Servis.

Joe Mineo
Feeding Hills

Resident Comments On Latest Town Council Meeting

To The Editor:

It is 7:45 on Monday night, and I have just finished listening to Mr. Art Leary speak at "Citizen's Speak Time." Mr. Leary, I admire you and commend you. Your speech was the best all around that I have heard in a long time. I think you have spoken for a great many people, and so eloquently.

I had already started a "Letter to the Editor" tonight, but chose to disregard it after I heard Mr. Leary speak. You are a great man who is obviously not afraid to speak your mind. You remind me of my father, who also speaks his mind, and one thing my father told me 17 years ago when my husband and I moved here from Chicopee was, "Beware, because politically you are going from bad to worse." And that was when we had a town manager! Oh, how right he was.

As I continued to watch the council meeting, I thought I was at the premiere of "The Godfather, Part IV." I sat in awe at the people who stood up to state to the council of the payoffs involved here by Berkshire Power, and the courage it took for these people who turned them down. The large corporations fell to B.P., but the little people stood strong and refused to become their pawn. I

actually feared for Mr. Cuccovia and his family and businesses! I applaud you all for speaking up about the truth.

But, as expected, we have four members of our council who apparently chose to ignore your truths. Is this a surprise? No, it is not; we all knew how they would vote. Jill Simpson obviously wasn't listening at all, especially when she said she would not vote for anything that would cause harm to the three people she loved the most. Jill — weren't you listening?

Two precious statements were made tonight: one, there could be a major problem involving a lack of water; and two, not one medical doctor would come forward to say that a power plant is a safe commodity to have in your neighborhood.

I work with 36 doctors, and not one is rushing to move to Agawam because our property values will increase, and our air quality is going to still remain good.

Boy, would I love to know what you four have going with Berkshire Power. You have all sold out your town (and in the future, your children's health) to B.P.

It is now obvious after tonight's meeting that no one will change the minds of the mayor and his four "crew members." But you people who stood up tonight and spoke for us, the townspeople, can at least sleep at night.

Pamela Bucalo
Agawam

Cincotta Farms, Fire Dept. Receive Granger Kids

To The Editor:

On Thursday, October 9th, over 100 kindergarten students from Granger School went on their fifth annual walking field trip to Cincotta Farm and to the Feeding Hills Fire Station.

Two groups of children were greeted both in the morning and in the afternoon. A special thank-you goes to Mrs. Laura Cincotta and to the firefighters at the Feeding Hills station. As part of our fire safety unit in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, the children are given a great presentation.

The program at the fire station consists of a discussion of fire safety rules, a close-up look at a fire truck, equipment, and clothing, a tour of the station, and an opportunity for each student to spray the hose.

The children then enjoy a stop at Cincotta Farm. Mrs. Cincotta welcomes each child and does an educational lesson on healthy foods. She holds up all of the fruits and vegetables at her stand for the children to guess. Each child is given an apple as a snack and a small pumpkin to take home.

This field trip is both educational and enjoyable. It would not be possible without the contributions made by Mrs. Cincotta and the Feeding Hills firefighters.

Thanks again for your kindness to our students.

The Granger Kindergarten Teachers
Mrs. Leeann McKeever, Mrs. Pat Kallfa
Mrs. Jackie Toussaint, Mrs. Linda Morassi

SEE LETTERS - Page 9...

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"George Has Earned Our Trust" Re-Elect

• EXPERIENCE

• HONESTY

• LEADERSHIP

• INTEGRITY

• DEDICATION

• COMMON SENSE



THE COUNCILOR WITH THE MOST ACHIEVEMENTS

GEORGE BITZAS

Agawam City Council

EDUCATION

Graduate with Honors
Westfield State College

Principal & Teacher
St. George's Greek School

Former Teacher
West Spfld. High School

GOVERNMENT

Agawam Town Councilor
8 Years

Chairperson of the
License Comm. - 8 yrs.

Member of
Ordinance Comm. - 8 yrs.

COMMUNITY

Member - Agawam
Historical Association

Associate Member
Polish American Club

Member of
Beautification Comm.

"A RECORD OF LEADERSHIP AND
EXPERIENCE FOR AGAWAM"

Pull
Lever 26A

Paid for by George Bitzas.

Pull
Lever 26A

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Elect Ron Brown City Council

Our Actions Today Form Our Future

Let's Consider What We Are Building
For Our Children And Grandchildren



- Use City Equipment To Clear Sidewalks Of Snow For Elderly And Shut-Ins
- Rewrite Zoning Laws To End Spot Zoning (No More Convenience Stores On Every Corner)
- Prevent The Opening Of Nude Or Semi-Nude Entertainment.
- Let's End The Childish Antics And Petty Bickering Of Some Councilors
- Let's Move Our Council Meetings Off "The Comedy Channel" And Back To Serious Government

Vote Ron Brown — Candidate For City Council

Paid for by Ron Brown.

LETTERS - from Page 8...

Johnson Is Very Adept At Playing Political Games

To The Editor:

After the recent primary, I promised myself that I would quietly fade away, but I find it impossible to stand by while Chris Johnson and his spin doctors continue to cloud the truth.

Chris Johnson is parading around town and to all of his favorite media outlets with a letter from the Board of Bar Overseers which exonerates him from the allegation that he was, in effect, practicing law without a license. Chris is moaning like a wounded cow and claiming all kinds of emotional injuries.

He even had the hutzba to claim that the allegations had harmed him professionally as an attorney, even though, the last time we checked, his "livelihood" was mayor. Maybe it is time for him to decide whether he wants to be a mayor or a town attorney.

While we may quibble with the BBO's action, especially in light of the fact that the letter was dated two days before a packet containing important information about the situation arrived in BBO offices, the BBO's letter deals with only one technicality in a very complex situation. Chris Johnson still has a few important questions to answer.

The people of Agawam deserve to know why Johnson was appearing in court (as an attorney or mayor) without the consent or even the knowledge of the Zoning Board of Appeals. This is an especially pertinent question when one considers that at its next meeting, the ZBA voted to take no action in regard to the appeal and publicly denied any knowledge of the mayor's actions.

The voters are also entitled to know why Chris asked the Chairman of the Board of Appeals to sign an affidavit that Mr. Hebert considered to be inaccurate? Why, when Mr. Hebert refused to sign that affidavit, did Chris react by ordering that the ZBA's files be sealed and that the board be denied any type of clerical help and that it be evicted from the office space which it had occupied for more than 20 years?

Other questions continue to linger, such as: why were the town attorneys unprepared for the hearing, even though they had been given more than a week's notice that a hearing on July 10th was probable? I wonder if there have been any other court hearings, on this or other issues, which have necessitated Chris to appear in court on the town's behalf? If so, was he acting as an attorney for the town or as mayor?

Chris Johnson has a habit of evading difficult questions by claiming that they are politically motivated. When he is stung by criticism or his actions are in any way questioned, he howls.

It is about time that the voters of Agawam realize that the biggest political animal in this town is Chris Johnson. He is very adept at playing hardball political games.

This year's game is to cry "politics" every time he gets caught with his hand in the cookie jar.

Best wishes,
Frank Lawlor
Agawam

Several Council Candidates Have Not Spoken On Issues

To The Editor:

With Election Day fast approaching, many voters are wondering why the following candidates for City Council have not yet shared their views and opinions on the issues facing our town: Brown, Negrucci, Chmielewski, Young, Geiger, Magovern, and Euliano.

Many candidates have expressed a desire to improve the atmosphere at the Council meetings by working together for the good of the town, which is certainly a worthwhile endeavor.

Would the challengers take the time to describe how they would accomplish this, and also state their positions on education, seniors' benefits, taxes, zoning concerns, Citizen's Speak Time, and any other issues that are of particular interest to them.

Respectfully,
Mr. and Mrs. G.L. Sommer
Feeding Hills

What Can You Do For Agawam On November 4th?

To The Editor:

To The Voters Of Agawam:

After reviewing the primary election results and the candidates, a few questions came to mind:

- Who is Donald Rheault?
- Did a case involving Stanley Chmielewski cost the town's taxpayers in excess of \$100,000?
- Does Atty. Gina Letellier represent the CCBA?
- What has Don Rheault ever done?
- Why did former chief Chmielewski take a sudden early retirement?

• How much income has Atty. Letellier received from the CCBA (Concerned Citizens & Businesses in Agawam)?

• Is Mr. Rheault the best Monday morning quarterback Agawam has ever had?

• Did Mr. Chmielewski compromise a high profile case?

• Could there be a conflict with Gina Letellier becoming a city councilor and a member of the CCBA and also attorney for the CCBA?

YOU DECIDE!

We need to elect the most qualified candidates for Agawam's city council! The upcoming election, November 4th, is **VERY IMPORTANT** for the town of AGAWAM!

Sincerely,
Stephen Brouillette
President, T.I.P. (Truth in Politics)
Agawam

CCBA Says "Thanks" For Supporting Wine Tasting Event

To The Editor:

The Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA) wish to thank all of their friends

and supporters who made the Wine Tasting Event such a huge success. Dozens of types of wonderful wines (imported and domestic) were donated by John and Manon McCarthy of Northgate Discount Liquors of Springfield.

We were overwhelmed with the large attendance which brought people from East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Springfield, Holyoke, and Connecticut. Music was donated by New England D.J.'s/Karaoke Kid Productions-D.J. Brian Fowler. Brian made it a fun night for everyone with his music and songs.

The CCBA are very grateful to Del Negro's Markets, Maria's Pizza, Charlie and Mary Ghedi, and all of the other individuals who had contributed to this fundraiser.

Karen Dickinson of South Windsor, CT, won the TV set. The "Basket of Cheer" was won by Ellen Rendrick of Agawam, and many, many other happy winners went home with great gifts.

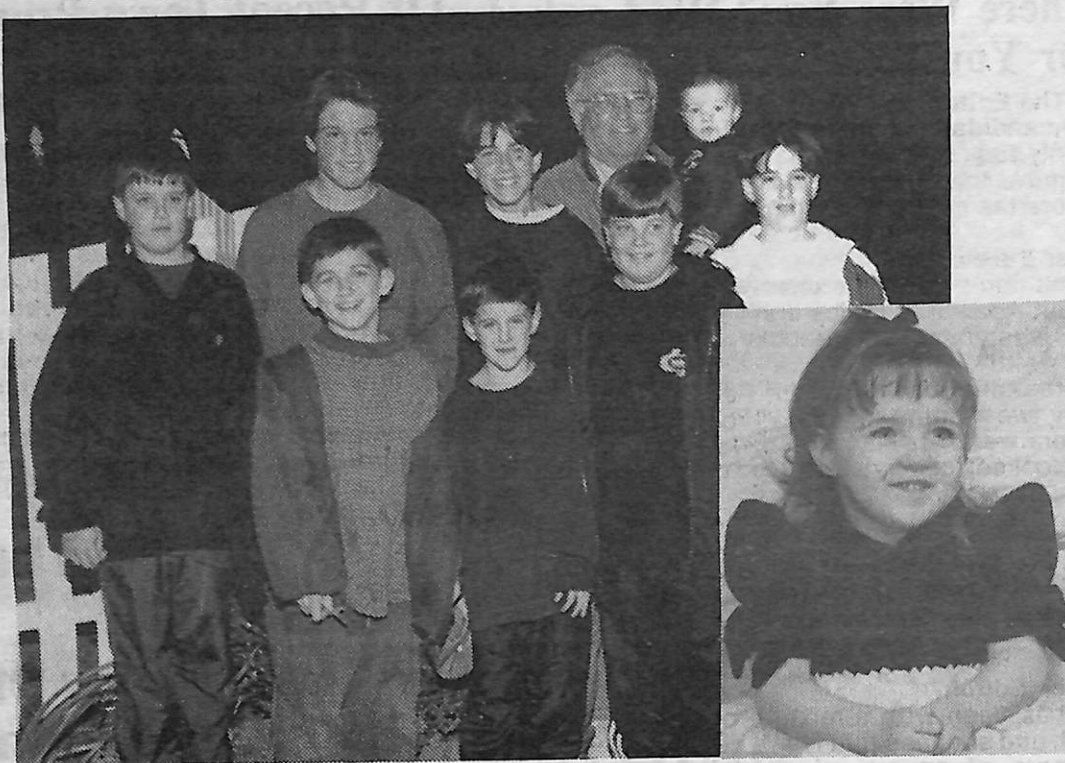
All proceeds from this event are being used to continue the legal battle with Berkshire Power and their attempt to override the zoning laws of the town of Agawam.

SEE LETTERS - Page 10...

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Town Council Candidate Don Rheault Has His Roots...



And His Branches, In Agawam

"Don has a deep and sincere commitment to public service and our community."

- Original co-founder of the Agawam Athletic Association.
- Member Sacred Heart Church Parish Council.
- Former member Agawam Lions Club.
- Owner of The Message on Hold Network of New England.
- Member Agawam Chamber Of Commerce.

As a former Town Council President, Don earned the respect and confidence of his peers as being able to foster fair and open debate. Don was elected President by **six different** councils and his tenure still stands as the longest to date.

**Please Vote Don Rheault, Council
Lever 23A
November 4, 1997**

Paid for by Joan Rheault

[illegible]

LETTERS - from Page 10...

Revisiting Opinion On Band's "Color Purple"

To The Editor:

In response to the letters written regarding the color purple, all points were well taken. I thank you for shedding some light on the subject.

The intent of my letter was not to offend anyone, so my apologies if I did. However, my opinion on keeping orange and brown still stands.

The successes of our band and colorguard rely not on colors, but on performance. Our past colorguards and bands had successful performances wearing our colors. I feel the color orange gives us just as much "attitude" as does the color blue (sure does look like purple).

I now understand that the ideal situation would be to have two sets of uniforms, but since that cannot be, I still think orange and brown should be used to represent our town in both performances and parades.

When these new uniforms wear out and it's time to purchase new ones, I hope that whoever is in charge keeps this in mind.

Best wishes go out to the Agawam band and colorguard for all their success no matter what they decide to wear. However, I'd still like to see the orange and brown colors return someday along with the old-style uniforms. Those Indian headaddresses sure did look sharp!

Laurie Littlefield
Feeding Hills

Ruth Bitzas Is Terrific Veterans' Agent For Town

To The Editor:

I am writing to inform you how fortunate the Town of Agawam is to have Ruth Bitzas as our Veterans' Agent.

I called and also went down to the City of Springfield's V.A., trying to get my deceased husband's discharge from the Navy during WW II. I got shuffled around for several weeks, to no avail.

I then made a call to Agawam V.A. Ruth Bitzas and within hours got an answer. I received the discharge almost immediately in the mail, thanks to Ruth's conscientious work.

Sincerely,
Ruth Thyberg
Agawam

Stieg & Russo Counter Remarks Made By Johnson

To The Editor:

We would like to begin by thanking Ric Sardella and *The Agawam Advertiser News* for this opportunity to defend ourselves against the remarks made by Christopher Johnson in the Tuesday, October 21, 1997 edition of the *Springfield Union News*.

In order to understand the accuracy of Mr. Johnson's comments, we must provide you with some background information about his appearance before Superior Court Justice Bertha Josephson on July 10, 1996.

On the date in question, abutters to the proposed Berkshire Power plant were given an opportunity to present oral argument to the court on their request to intervene in the lawsuit filed by Berkshire Power against the Zoning Board of Appeals and its members. The motion was filed on July 3, 1996 and all parties, including the town and the Board of Appeals, were given notice that the oral arguments would probably be heard on July 10, 1996. This was confirmed by the Court on July 9, 1996.

As the transcript of the hearing verifies, Attorney Charles Sclafani and Christopher Johnson appeared in court that fateful day, allegedly on behalf of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Attorney Sclafani indicated that he was not prepared to represent the position of the town, a position which had already been submitted in writing to the Court and to which Attorney Sclafani's name was attached. After Attorney Sclafani made his apologies, the Mayor began to argue that the Town and the Board of Appeals were in opposition to the citizens' request to be heard.

In fact, the Zoning Board of Appeals had not yet taken a position on the issue. In fact, when the Board finally took an official position, one month after the Mayor argued the Board was opposed to the motion, it voted not to take a position for or against the citizens' request to be heard.

In fact, the Board admitted that as a whole, it had never been notified of the motion, the hearing, or the position the Mayor argued on their behalf. This issue was not made public until after Mayor Johnson evicted the Board of Appeals from its office and confiscated their records. This issue was never disclosed in print.

At the beginning of this year, a request was

made to the Attorney General's office regarding the status of the Mayor's authority to act as an attorney for the town while sitting as the Mayor. We questioned whether it violated any Massachusetts laws or the separation of powers of the Massachusetts Constitution.

During this period of time, Solicitor Thomas Locke indicated that Mayor Johnson's license to practice law was inactive since 1989, so an inquiry was made to the Board of Bar Overseers about the status of Johnson's license to practice law.

Our inquiry to the Board of Bar Overseers was made privately. We did not call a press conference or bring the inquiry to the press for publication. It was only after the September 25, 1997 Special Meeting of the City Council that our inquiry was made public. This issue was not made public until after Mayor Christopher Johnson ejected the Zoning Board of Appeals from the Town Hall and confiscated their records.

The special council meeting revealed that Mayor Johnson acted in retaliation for ZBA Chairman Ronald Hebert's refusal to sign an inaccurate affidavit presented by Attorney Locke on behalf of the Mayor. No mention of Johnson's status as a licensed attorney was ever made by anyone other than Johnson when he went to the media and made his status an issue.

It was Johnson who also went to the media this week to claim that he had been exonerated and to accuse us of playing politics. How valid is his exoneration when the Board of Bar Overseers hadn't received the information we forwarded them over a week ago when they made the decision — information including the affidavit Mayor Johnson wanted Mr. Hebert to sign, the affidavit Mr. Hebert agreed to sign, and the minutes of the

Special Meeting of the City Council.

How could anyone accuse us of playing politics with this issue when we never publicly mentioned it? Only Johnson mentioned it himself; therefore, it would appear that it is the Mayor who wants this turned into political grandstanding for his own political gain.

In Tuesday's edition (October 21, 1997) of the *Union News*, Mayor Johnson stated, "They are attacking me, not as mayor of Agawam, but my practice of law which is my livelihood." Mayor Johnson's statement is false because we never attacked him on this issue either as mayor or as an attorney.

Mayor Johnson is the only one who made this a public issue. Furthermore, how could he accuse us of attacking his livelihood as a lawyer when, for nine years, he has derived his livelihood as Mayor of Agawam and, in fact, cannot practice law in any way under our City Charter.

We have never set out to defame the Mayor. Our intent was simply to educate ourselves. Had Mayor Johnson not evicted the Zoning Board of Appeals, there would have been no forum to release this information. Only after Mayor Johnson chose to bring this issue to the attention of the media did it become a matter for public consumption.

If he blames anyone for politicizing the issue, he need only blame himself. We challenge Mayor Johnson to prove his allegations that we brought this issue to the attention of the media and therefore the public. We challenge Mayor Johnson to prove that we defamed him.

Karl Stieg
Louis Russo
Agawam

Rep. Keenan Says Agawam Receives \$48,750 For Community Policing

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan recently announced that the Executive Office of Public Safety awarded Agawam a \$48,750 Community Policing Grant for fiscal year 1998. A total of \$17.6 million in grants to 312 police departments statewide was awarded by the state Executive Office of Public Safety.

Agawam's commitment to preventing crime and improving the quality of life in their community is reflected in the Agawam Police Department's Community Policing Grant proposal.

The proposal for the grant money focuses on expanding their bike patrol beats in the community and continuing to offer the successful Citizen's Police Academy. Additionally, the proposal includes sending three officers to the New England Crime Prevention/Community Policing Symposium in New Hampshire to obtain the latest information on community policing ideas.

Keenan noted that the funding for the fiscal year 1998 community policing grants was \$5 million higher than the previous year.

The Following Candidates Have Publicly Supported The Citizens Of Agawam By Supporting:

1. Your Right To A Voice, Via Referendum.
2. The Defense Of Agawam's Zoning Laws.
3. The Defeat Of A Poorly Negotiated Payment In Lieu Of Tax Proposal.
4. The Preservation Of The Character Of Our Community.
5. The Protection Of Our Air Quality And Water Supply.

FOR MAYOR: Kent P. Servis

FOR CITY COUNCIL:

Dennis Perry	Michael Del Negro
Donald Rheault	Louis Russo
Edward Caba	Peter Longo
David Skolnick	Gary Suffriti
Joseph Langone	Karl Stieg

Gina Marie Letellier

They Deserve Your Vote On Tuesday, November 4th

If You Also Believe In Protecting Agawam, Then Join With Us By Supporting These Fine Candidates Who Are Working For A Positive Change...

For Further Information, Contact Owen Broadhurst At 786-1508

Taxpayers for a Positive Change

Paid for by: Taxpayers for a Positive Change. President: Rob Allard. Treasurer: Owen Broadhurst.

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Campaign '97



DEBORAH J. SEKULA

Deborah J. Sekula Announces Candidacy For School Committee

Deborah J. Sekula of Cooper Street, Agawam, has announced her candidacy for the Agawam School Committee.

Mrs. Sekula states that she is making this bid for a seat on the School Committee because she feels the parents of Agawam are currently under-represented.

"If the School Committee is the elected voice of the parents, then there should be more than one member with a child in the system on the Committee," she says.

Mrs. Sekula has been very involved in the public schools over the past six years. She has served two years as president of Phelps PTO and remains an active member in that organization. Her daughter, Denise, is a fourth grade student there.

At the Middle School, she is serving her second term as Co-Chair of the School Council, and is this year's PTO treasurer. Her daughter, Allyson, is a sixth grader.

Mrs. Sekula is also a member of the Agawam Elementary Playscape Committee, which is in the process of raising \$40,000 to install new playscapes at all four elementary schools along with the new additions and renovations.

She is a member of the District Learning Team and is currently undergoing training as a facilitator at the Pioneer Valley Regional Education Business Alliance.

She is employed as a route driver for Win Stuff Corp. of New York, and is a part-time merchandiser for Accessories Associates, Inc., of Smithfield, Rhode Island.

Mrs. Sekula promises to bring a parent's perspective to the School Committee if elected.

Bitzas Proud Of Fire Dept., New Station

"It is well known among our residents that we do have the finest Fire Department personnel," said Town Councilor George Bitzas, candidate for reelection, in a recent press statement.

"Now, we finally also have one of the best fire stations in Western Massachusetts. I was an early advocate of the much needed fire station after seeing the deplorable conditions of the old Elm Street Fire Station," said Bitzas.

"Today, we finally have a beautiful, colonial style fire station that enhances the Main Street Historical area. With this location we were able to provide quicker protection for our residents. I will continue to support the modern fire station and its very professional and dedicated people.

"They really deserve our appreciation. When the need arose for a fire department rescue boat, I strongly supported the purchase of one. When I am reelected, I will continue this support of our fire department and its personnel."

VOTE NOV. 4TH!!!

Servis Takes Issue With Johnson On Open Government

Mayoral candidate and City Council President Kent Servis has issued the following statement on open government:

"It has always been and will continue to be my belief that government has only one entity to answer to ... the citizens. Over the almost eight years of the Johnson administration, Agawam's government has increasingly turned a deaf ear to the wishes and desires of the citizens of Agawam.

"The recent scandal over the Mayor's ousting of the Board of Appeals from City Hall points up an equally serious problem that goes far beyond indifference to the citizens' wishes.

"The mayor should **never** interfere with the functions of any board of commission, let alone a Zoning Board of Appeals that is mandated by the state.

"As the members of the board testified to the City Council, this all came about over the Chairman's refusal to sign a statement, under penalty of perjury, that he did not agree with. The Chairman of the Board of Appeals disagreed with the statement provided to him by the Mayor. He testified before the council that he did not authorize the Mayor to represent the Board of Appeals at the trial in Northampton regarding Berkshire Power.

"At issue is more than just the issue of Chris Johnson signing the appearance papers as the attorney for the defense, even though his license to practice law was inactive.

"The most serious issue in my opinion is that Mayor Johnson represented a position that the Board of Appeals had not taken!

"The Board of Appeals had not even been aware of the hearing, let alone the fact that the Mayor would represent them, or a position that they voted not to take.

"As your mayor, I pledge to the citizens of Agawam, as well as the elected and appointed boards and commissions, that I will respect the integrity and autonomy of the boards. I will never allow personal enthusiasm for a project to interfere with the lawful functioning of the various boards and commissions.

"As your mayor, I will uphold my oath of office and not play cute legal games to circumvent the decisions of the various boards and committees.

"A Servis administration will be open to the input of all of our citizens, not just the corporate giants and special interest groups.

"On November 4th, make your vote count. Cast your vote for open government — cast your vote for Kent Servis," concluded Servis.

Chmielewski Says He Will Deliver On His Campaign Promises

"In this political season, promises are as abundant as the leaves we all have in our back yards," said Agawam Council candidate Stanley J. Chmielewski in a campaign statement this week.

"Everything from open space to aid of all kinds is being promised in an attempt to secure political office. To this I ask the the incumbents, 'Where were you for the last two, four, or whatever years?'

"Like any one of my opponents, I have some promises to make. The difference is that I will keep mine and not give lip service for two months every two years.

"1) I will be prepared when I attend a Council meeting. I will not resort to the theatrics and playing to the TV cameras that have become the norm.

"2) I will not become a member of any faction, but will decide the issue on the merits of that issue alone.

"3) I will be accessible to each person in the town and will always be available for citizen input.

"4) I **WILL** bring issues to the forefront that affect the entire town. Such issues as the lack of or the condition of the sidewalks in the town of Agawam. Although this issue receives some notice from time to time, there has never been a concerted effort to devise a plan that will allow the perpetual care or the construction of new sidewalks in this town.

"The old Sidewalk and Safety Committee started the process and really made progress, but that was ended some 25 years ago. Since then, the sidewalks have suffered and have fallen into disrepair.

"I promise to reinstitute a modified version of the Sidewalk and Safety Committee to be comprised of members of the general public, the Police Department Safety Officer, and the Department of Public Works. This committee would be advisory in nature, but can be used as a resource for the Mayor and the Council to keep the need for good, functional sidewalks in the forefront of issues for the town.

"I believe that providing for the health, education, and welfare of the citizens of the town is my first priority. Sidewalks are used by our children as a route to and from school, and by our seniors as a route to shopping and pleasure.

"We owe it to them and to every citizen in town to keep these routes in good repair and accessible," concluded Chmielewski.



JOHNSON FOR MAYOR



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*The Committee to Re-Elect Chris Johnson
cordially invites you to attend a*

HAM & BEAN DINNER

Saturday November 1, 1997

4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

at the

POLISH AMERICAN CLUB

139 Southwick Street

Feeding Hills, MA

Donation \$5.00 adults / \$3.00 children under 12

Tickets available by calling Anna at 786-6297 or at the door



Re-Elect

Chris Johnson

MAYOR

Please Vote on Tuesday, November 4th

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Campaign '97 - continued...

Johnson Says Zoning Reform Critical For Agawam's Future

In a campaign statement released this week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson identified zoning reform as a critical need for Agawam's future.

"One of the legislative areas that the Town of Agawam desperately needs to work on is zoning revision. Most of the current zoning ordinances date back to the 1950's, 1960's, and the 1970's.

"Many current types of development such as cell phone towers, supermarkets, and drive-thru establishments were not envisioned in that time period. In addition, our current zoning code provides little in the way of standards to guide the issuance of discretionary approvals such as permits, special permits, and special use permits.

"During my tenure as mayor, I have proposed numerous zoning reform initiatives only to see them die on the Council floor. The Council itself indicated a number of years ago that it wanted to review and revise the current zoning on a piecemeal basis when it formed the Zoning Review Committee of the Council. The Council has done little and, under the current leadership, the Zoning Review Committee has not even met during 1997.

"I strongly believe that the Town of Agawam needs to review and revise its entire zoning code to reflect the goals and objectives of our community today and not continue with values and judgements which are now outdated. The town began that process in 1993 with the completion of the initiation of a community-wide planning process in the preparation of the document 'Coming Together for Consensus: A Working Statement of Goals and Objectives to Guide Agawam into the Future.'

"The Agawam Town Council is the legislative body of the town and they are the only people who

can ultimately complete this critical process. In order to achieve success, the entire Council would have to make an up-front commitment to this project or it would end up being a futile exercise and a waste of taxpayer dollars.

"Specifically," Johnson continued, "I would propose the following three-part joint initiative by the administration of the town working with the Council:

- Prepare a new, more accurate and detailed Zoning Map of the community to replace the current outdated map;

- Work together with input from residents, local businesses and community leaders to prepare a new Master Plan with the assistance of a strategic planning consultant/facilitator to replace the current plan which was prepared in 1976; and...

- Work together with input from residents, local businesses and community leaders to review and revise the current Zoning Code with the assistance of a zoning revision consultant/facilitator to replace the current code which dates back to the 1950's, 1960's, and 1970's.

"In order for this initiative to be successful, it will require the gathering of input from residents, local businesses and community leaders through surveys, questionnaires and public meetings. It will also require a commitment of funding and hard work by the Council and the administration over a multi-year period to achieve success.

"As we approach the new millennium, Agawam needs to re-examine its land use goals and objectives to insure that the quality of life we all enjoy in Agawam will continue for future generations," concluded Johnson.

Sandlin Lawn Signs Seeking Good Homes

"Reelect Rosemary Sandlin to the School Committee" lawn signs are now seeking good homes in the community.

For more information, please contact Frank or Allyson at 786-2929.

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★★★ JOHNSON ENDORSES QUATRONE ★★★



To the Residents of Agawam,

I am pleased to ask you to join with me in supporting Chris Quatrone for re-election to the Town Council. Even despite working in difficult surroundings, Chris has always acted with integrity and professionalism in his efforts to make Agawam a better place to live and raise a family. I believe Chris has truly been the voice of reason and responsibility on the council, and he has made a positive difference for Agawam's future.


Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Chris Quatrone

Agawam City Council

A Voice of Reason & Responsibility

Paid for by the Citizens for Christian M. Quatrone

Russo Speaks About Library Expansion

"As a lifelong resident of Agawam who has always taken great pleasure in utilizing our town library, I spend a great deal of time enjoying the many benefits our library has to offer," stated Louis Russo, candidate for Agawam City Council, in a press release issued this week.

"My children are also avid users of the library and spend many hours per week there. Unfortunately, I have seen the library become so overcrowded that it is difficult to find any space to sit and do research or just to peruse a book.

"The problem is not only the lack of room for patrons, but also the lack of space for additional volumes, research materials, and activities.

"Agawam is fortunate to have a library staff that does such a tremendous job in operating and upgrading the library. However, they can only do so much with the little space that they have to work with. As a result, the residents of our community, especially our children and students, are forced to use limited space.

"It is not unusual to see children sitting on the floor to do their research or studies because there are no seats available. The ability to utilize and enjoy a library should not be on a first come, first serve basis because of the lack of space.

"I believe, as I am sure you do, that a library is an extremely important asset to any community, especially for education. It is an essential service that is used and needed by all age groups, and must be updated and expanded as the community grows.

"The Town of Agawam has grown so drastically in such a short period of time that we outgrew our library years ago. We should take and make every opportunity to expand our library.

"It is essential that we make every effort to meet the needs of our present population and to provide for any future growth. Such a direly needed expansion hinges on our elected officials and our community's ability to receive support and financial assistance through grants and sensible bonding.

"Working together, we can make library expansion a real possibility," concluded Russo.

VOTE NOVEMBER 4TH!!!

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★ VOTE FOR ★

TERESA KOZLOSKI

SCHOOL COMMITTEE



- Understands Needs of All Students
- Analyzes and Questions All Proposals
- Focuses on Goals for High Standards

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Teresa Kozloski.

Campaign '97 - continued...

TPCPAC Seeks Support From Agawam Residents

Taxpayers for Positive Change Political Action Committee (TPCPAC) have filed Form CPF M101PC: STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION with the Town Clerk's office in Agawam, MA, specifically so that it could address election issues and the Berkshire Power ballot question to be voted on the 4th of November, 1997.

In the spirit of promoting "honest, ethical, open, democratic city government that is environmentally friendly," as is its purpose, TPCPAC will be working against passage of the ballot proposal, and will promote the candidacies of individuals who support its goals for city government.

TPCPAC, with pleasure, will accept organizational assistance and donations from all who support its mission to return city government to the people. By law, TPCPAC cannot accept financial contributions from incorporated businesses or professional associations.

TPCPAC will not accept any financial contributions from either registered lobbyists or political candidates' committees. TPCPAC is required by law to reveal and itemize the names and addresses of any who contribute over the sum of \$50. All who contribute \$200 or more must also disclose occupation and name and address of employer.

TPCPAC will not accept contributions of more than \$500 from any single individual or PAC. All contributions of over \$50 must be received by personal check alone, and no minor may contribute more than \$25. All restrictions are for the period of one calendar year.

TPCPAC is required by law to have a Chairman and a Treasurer. Robert Allard of 46 Barn Road and Owen R. Broadhurst of 96 Elbert Road respectively hold those offices.

All who are interested in contributing in any way to the success of this organization are requested to contact Owen R. Broadhurst by phone at (413) 786-1508.

VOTE NOVEMBER 4TH!!!

Johnson Discusses Record In Attracting New Industries & Jobs

"Sometimes it is hard to believe that Agawam is part of a global economy in which there is strong competition amongst communities and regions to attract new jobs and industries," stated Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in a press release that was issued this week.

"Every community must compete to attract new quality jobs for its residents and new industries to expand its tax base. It is especially important in Agawam since we were hit hard by the economic recession of the early 1990's and due to the heavy reliance on defense-based industries in the northeast.

"I have worked hard to make Agawam one of the leaders in attracting new industries and jobs. The Agawam Regional Industrial Park is the premier industrial park in the area and a tremendous asset to our community. The total employment in the park is now over 1,350 jobs. Many new businesses have located in the park, and many existing businesses in the park are expanding their facilities. This growth has brought many new construction jobs and many new permanent employment opportunities.

"The new industrial growth has also significantly enhanced our tax based, which has allowed for reductions in property taxes over the past two fiscal years. Government, at all levels, is being asked to reduce taxes while, at the same time, improve and expand services.

"I have worked hard to position Agawam to attract quality new industries to enhance and stabilize our tax base. The town has made a significant investment to improve the infrastructure surrounding our industrial area to provide unparalleled transportation access (Route 57 - Garden Street ramps, Silver/Suffield Street reconstruction, Shoemaker Lane reconstruction, etc.) and ample water and sewer capacity (12- and 16-inch water mains and main interceptor sewers).

"Our location affords us easy access to Bradley International Airport and our commercial/industrial tax rate is amongst the lowest in our area. I have also worked to streamline and professionalize our permitting and review processes to compete with sunbelt states. All this has allowed Agawam to see unprecedented growth in our in-

dustrial area, including:

- 12 new businesses in the Agawam Regional Industrial Park in the last four years alone (some of the new businesses chose Agawam over locations in the Carolinas);

- Selection of the Agawam Regional Industrial Park by the Governor's Task Force on Attracting new Semi-Conductor Industry to Massachusetts;

- Selection of industrial property off Shoemaker and Moylan Lanes by Berkshire Power from amongst over 20 sites in 11 different communities for the construction of a new state-of-the-art, gas-fired, power generation facility which will:

- * create 200 to 250 new local union construction jobs;

- * create 15 to 25 high-paying, permanent employment opportunities with local hiring preference;

- * be one of the largest taxpayers in Agawam; their current offer is \$1.1 million per year, escalating at three percent per year (please note that if the town chooses not to enter into a payment in lieu of tax agreement [PILOT], Berkshire has indicated that it will organize as a manufacturing corporation and pay less than \$300,00 per year);

- * be the largest water/sewer rate payer (close to \$1 million per year at current rates);

- * be one of the cleanest operating power generation facilities in the world; and...

- * be a producer of low-cost electricity for potential distribution to the residents and businesses of Agawam.

"Agawam has a strong record of attracting new quality industry. We also have a strong record of bringing quality new commercial enterprises and working with existing businesses to increase local investment and preserve existing jobs.

"Over the past several years, Agawam has seen the addition of the following new commercial enterprises:

- Quail Run Estates — a magnificent retirement facility on Cardinal Lane off Cooper Street;

- Country Estates — a new skilled nursing facility located on Suffield Street;

SEE JOHNSON - Page 15...

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KARL STIEG for CITY COUNCIL

WHERE DOES KARL STAND ON THE ISSUES?

1. BERKSHIRE POWER: The proposed plant will pollute our air, waste our water, and destroy the character of our community. The proposed payment in lieu of tax plan is a bad deal for our town. Agawam must strive to encourage development that will enhance our quality of life and prohibit businesses that will destroy it.

2. SCHOOLS: The high standards of our school system, which once were the envy of other communities, have been replaced by a satisfaction with mediocrity. The Town Council should take a lead role in restoring the highest levels of educational excellence to our schools. It is the least that we can do for the children of Agawam.

3. TAXES: The Mayor and the Town Council seem to be proud of the fact that they have **raised** our tax rates **only 30%** since 1989 and more than doubled the size of our budget. I believe that with careful attention to waste and unnecessary expenditures, we can **cut our taxes**.

4. SENIOR CITIZENS: For many years, the Mayor and the Council have been making promises to our senior citizens. The seniors of Agawam are tired of these empty promises and are entitled to action. I believe that in conjunction with our State Senator and Representative, we can make positive changes to improve the lives of the seniors in the areas of property tax relief, the Senior Center, and expanded health benefits.

Karl has always been willing to stand on his own and to discuss the issues and his proposals and opinions. On November 4th, the future of Agawam rests in your hands. Karl Stieg has worked hard for the citizens of Agawam and now he is asking for your vote.

PLEASE PULL LEVER 24.

Stieg Has Stood Up For You, Now Stand Up For Him!

Paid for by Karl Stieg, Agawam

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

RE-ELECT Rosemary Sandlin School Committee

- * Vice Chair
- * Time & Learning Committee
- * Science & Technology Committee
- * District Learning Team
- * Junior High Teaming Committee
- * Senior High School Accreditation



Innovative - Involved Independent

Pull Lever 32-A

Paid for by the Committee To Re-Elect Rosemary Sandlin
Frank Sacco, Treasurer

Campaign '97 - continued...



TOWN COUNCILOR GEORGE BITZAS and members of his family at recent fundraiser at the Captain Charles Leonard House - from left - Katherine (daughter), Peter (son), Peggy (wife), Alexandra (mother). Missing is his oldest son, Christopher, a college freshman.

Bitzas Says His Service, Qualifications Key To Reelection Bid

"I believe this time, the voters will closely look at the qualification of each City Council candidate and make the right choice," said George Bitzas, candidate for reelection to the Agawam Town Council, in a press statement.

"I believe that my education, my experience, and my proven record of accomplishments make me a qualified candidate for reelection to the City Council. I graduated from Westfield State College with honors, have taught in West Springfield Junior and Senior High School, and am currently the principal and a teacher at the afternoon Greek School in Springfield.

"I have also been an instructor in the evening division at Westfield State College.

"As your City Councilor, I have served as chairman of the licensing committee for six years, a member of the ordinance committee for eight years, a member of the zoning review committee for five years, on the town beautification committee for eight years, and vice president of the council for two years.

"I have been a resident of our town for the past 17 years. I am an Associate member of the Polish American Club, a member of the Historic Association, a member of the Hampden County Sheriff Association, and a member of the Greek Church at Springfield's George Cathedral. I was the recipient of the Outstanding Foreign Born Citizen Award by the Massachusetts American Legion. When time allows, I am a volunteer for the church, elderly, and in the elementary schools as a reader.

"I care about Agawam," said Bitzas, "and the direction that it is going. With your help and your vote, I will continue to help steer Agawam in the right direction improving the quality of life for all of us. I know and I believe that you are going to make the right decisions in the voting booth by choosing the right people to continue the positive change in our town.

"The harmony between the council members and the cooperation with the administration, even if you don't agree on every issue, are the cornerstone for a good government," concluded Bitzas.

JOHNSON - from Page 14...

- Heritage Woods — a great new assisted living facility added on the Heritage Hall campus off Main and Cooper Streets; and...

- The Atrium — a new state-of-the-art, assisted living facility designed for residents with Alzheimer's disease located next to Quail Run Estates.

"The town has also seen the rejuvenation of Riverside Park and the injection of millions of dollars into the local economy. These new and rejuvenated businesses bring the jobs which will employ the next generation, and pay the taxes which allow our community to improve our public schools and facilities and enhance our essential services.

"It is through public improvements that we can brighten the future of our community and enhance the quality of life we enjoy," concluded Johnson.

Check our classified ads for the best in local goods and services...

Thompson Says Town Zoning Remains Critical Issue In Coming Term

Agawam City Councilor Nancy E. Thompson, a candidate for reelection, has released the following statement:

"Agawam's zoning ordinances have, on many occasions, been brought under scrutiny over these past several years. These situations demonstrate a critical need to review and revise Agawam's zoning ordinances. Although several attempts have been made to accomplish this, the much-needed revisions and updates have not occurred.

"Last year as City Council President, I reestablished the Council's Zoning Review Subcommittee under the leadership of Councilor Jill Simpson. Much groundwork was laid. The present Zoning Subcommittee has been inactive during this year.

"As City Councilors, we need to address these

zoning issues in a thorough fashion so as to protect and develop Agawam in a way that will provide safe and appropriate zoning.

"It is my intention to work with my fellow City Councilors, department personnel, and Agawam residents to achieve the much-needed review, revision, and updating of Agawam's zoning ordinances. These issues are too important to all of us in Agawam, and we as legislators cannot allow these issues to remain dormant. We must be proactive and not reactive.

"I look forward to working cooperatively and diligently in this area with my fellow City Councilors, Agawam commissions/committees, department personnel, and residents. We need to plan wisely so as to ensure safe and appropriate growth and development in Agawam. Thank you," concluded Thompson.

★ ★ ★ PLEASE VOTE ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4TH ★ ★ ★

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Lets Keep Agawam Moving in the Right Direction

REDUCED

Property Taxes
in the last
2 fiscal years

BUILDING

Additions and Renovations
to all 4 Elementary Schools
and the High School

INCREASED

the number of police
patrol officers by over
10% in the last 3 years

RE-PAVED

25% of Agawam's
streets in the
last 5 years

BUILT

the new
Agawam Fire Headquarters
on Main Street

IMPROVED

Agawam's Bond Rating
from
BBB to A+

PRESERVED

400 Acres of Open Space
Tuckahoe Turf Farm &
Agawam Municipal Golf Course

BROUGHT

12 new businesses to the
Agawam Regional
Industrial Park



Re-Elect
Chris Johnson
Mayor

Please Vote On Tuesday, November 4th

Paid for by the Committee To Re-Elect Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Campaign '97 - continued...**Linda M. Galarneau Cites Her Work With District Learning Team**

In a campaign statement released this week, School Committee member Linda M. Galarneau said, "As you are aware, there is a steady effort being made toward effective change in education. It is because of this effort that our school system, along with 13 other school districts in the Pioneer Valley, have been working with the Regional Education Business Alliance for the past two years.

"The Regional Education Business Alliance is a joint effort of corporations, schools, and community whose priorities are to collectively advocate for changes in education and to help develop systems which will help to most effectively implement these changes.

"The work of the Alliance is based on the belief that real change in education can only occur through a bottom-up approach with regard to decision-making. In addition, Agawam has formed a District Learning Team. The purpose of the District Learning Team is to provide a structure — a place where a school system can stop and look at itself as a whole.

"It is a place to talk openly and work together toward common goals. It is a place to listen to and respect one another's views. It is a place where we, as a community, will understand the need for change, the complexity of reform, and the time required to achieve it."

Mrs. Galarneau continued, "During the past two years, I have been actively involved with the District Learning Team. During this time, the District Learning Team has spent a lot of time and energy trying to construct a group that would clearly represent the stakeholders of the system — parents, teachers, students, administrators, the School Committee, and the business community.

"In order to get a sense as to what parents and teachers would accept as evidence that the Agawam School System is supporting improved student learning, the District Learning Team provides questionnaires to teachers and parents in September, asking them this very question. All responses received have been compiled, with the majority indicating that reducing class size would improve student learning.

"Because of this overwhelming response, we as a team have begun to investigate what has been done previously, what is being done presently, and what can be done in the future with regard to reducing class size.

"I cordially invite you, the stakeholders, to attend the next District Learning Team meeting on October 27th in the Agawam Jr. High cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. Here, you have the opportunity to take an active part in developing the quality of your child's education. Here, you will meet the challenge of bringing effective change in education. I look forward to seeing you there," concluded Galarneau.

VOTE VOTE VOTE
Tuesday, Nov. 4th
VOTE VOTE VOTE

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Certified Public Accountant
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Russo Supports Better Education In Agawam

In a statement issued this week, Agawam City Council candidate Louis Russo said, "I have always been a strong supporter of quality education. I have been involved, and continue to be involved, in many school programs and know firsthand the necessity for such programs.

"I have participated in programs pertaining to both gifted children and the learning disabled. I have been a Future Problem Solving coach and participated in the Read Aloud program. I am a member of various scholarship committees and athletic booster organizations.

"I feel that our educational system must be placed high on any list of priorities. In a world where nearly every career field relies on technological advances, the need for a good, well-rounded education is becoming increasingly essential.

"In addition to the 'three R's,' we must be sure to include the no less important extracurricular activities such as athletics and the arts. It is the combination of required subjects and extra activities that forms the basis for understanding, maturity, and growth in our children.

"The future of our community lies in the promise of all students that are in our schools today. We must look at all our town's children and see not only who they are, but also who they can become."

Russo continued, "I am pleased that we are finally enlarging our schools. Along with better educational programs, additions to our existing schools are necessary for providing adequate education.

"However, the construction of additional classrooms should have been done systematically over a period of years instead of all at once. Doing so would have painlessly increased our educational scope without disrupting students, teachers, and parents. It would have also caused less of a financial burden on our bonded debt.

"For example, if we expanded two schools a year for the past eight years, all construction would have been completed and the bonds on the first few schools would have been paid, and there would be smaller payments on the remaining school bonds.

"In conclusion, the importance of educational issues cannot be overlooked. As a City Councilor, I vow to protect our educational programs by making sure that cuts are made in waste and not in education, and any savings will go towards additional educational uses.

"Graduating competent students from Agawam's schools is necessary in today's difficult job market. Graduating educationally well-rounded students is too precious a resource for Agawam to neglect," concluded Russo.

Best local news...

Council Candidate Letellier To Hold Tea Party This Sunday

Attorney Gina-Marie Letellier, candidate for Agawam City Council, is pleased to announce that she will be holding a tea party at Ellen's Place on Sunday, October 26, 1997 at 3:00 p.m.

The tea party will allow citizens the opportunity to meet with Letellier in an informal, one-on-one environment.

At the party, Letellier will be discussing her plans to improve services for our senior population; for the creation of a recreation center or Boys' and Girls' Club in town; for the restoration of trust and responsibility in town government; and the need to update our zoning laws.

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the question-and-answer forum to follow the informal meetings.

The event is free and open to the public. Ellen's Place is located at 29 Southwick Street, across from the Crossroads Shoppes in Feeding Hills Center.

If anyone would like transportation to the event, please call Gina at 739-2112 during the day or 786-4723 after 7:00 p.m.

Gubernatorial Candidate To Speak At Oct. 26th Breakfast

The Agawam Democratic Committee is pleased to announce that Attorney Patricia McGovern, candidate for Governor of the Commonwealth and former Chair of the Legislature's Ways and Means Committee, will be the keynote speaker at its Meet the Candidates Breakfast on October 26, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at Chez Josef in Agawam.

The Breakfast will allow area Democrats the opportunity to meet with McGovern, as well as Senator Linda Melconian, and other statewide Democratic officeholders and candidates.

The Breakfast will also give Agawam residents the opportunity to meet with the registered Democrats and unenrolled candidates for City Council, School Committee, and Mayor.

The Spring Breakfast, honoring Joanne Willis as Democrat of the Year, was a tremendous success and a good time was had by all. Once again, Chez Josef will be presenting its lavish breakfast buffet, with unlimited trips to the buffet. Tickets are still available at the cost of \$20. Tickets may also be purchased at reduced rates in conjunction with advertisements in the program.

For more information, to purchase tickets, or to place an advertisement, please contact one of the following members of the Agawam Democratic Committee: Attorney Gina Marie Letellier, Rudy Altobelli, Louis Russo, or Scott Letendre, or write to us at P.O. Box 395, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

QUESTIONS - COMMENTS - IDEAS!!!

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About Agawam

ROBERT A. MAGOVERN

Candidate for Agawam City Council

would like to
hear from you.
Give me a call at
789-0171
or drop me a note to
144 Birch Hill Road,
Agawam



- ★ Agawam Native
- ★ Graduate Agawam High School Class of '61
- ★ Former Member Conservation Commission
- ★ Graduate Boston University
- ★ Local Business Owner

PLEASE ALLOW ME THE PRIVILEGE TO SERVE YOU,
The People of Agawam

Paid For By The Magovern Committee

Campaign '97 - continued...



TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATE MICHAEL DEL NEGRO and his wife, "Cookie," and their children - Lucia, Leslie, Michael, and Mark.

Del Negro Can Give Town Council Business Experience

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all those who voted for me on Primary Day. I was pleasantly surprised," said Agawam Town Council candidate Mike Del Negro in a press statement this week.

"With my extensive business experience I could give the City Council a different viewpoint when it is writing the budget or making other financial decisions.

"Among my qualifications are a BS Degree in Accounting from WNEC where I was President of Tau Kappa Epsilon National Fraternity. I was elected to the Who's Who Publication in colleges and universities and a dean's list student and a recipient of a scholarship from the Institute of Internal Auditors.

"In the past 27 years since I have been out of college I held positions in the business world as a Staff Accountant for Coopers and Lybrand CPA Firm, business manager, store manager and the Human Resources Manager for the entire Edward's division of First National Supermarkets covering four states. Presently, I own and operate my own supermarket in Hartford, CT.

"I vow never to neglect my constituents or responsibilities as a City Councilor if elected. I would appreciate your vote of confidence come Election Day."

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It's time to support cooperation.

It's time to support the mayor in getting the best deal possible from Berkshire Power for all the citizens of Agawam.

It's time to support job growth and progress in Agawam.

It's time to support quality education.

It's time to write-in your

support for
Abe Kasparian
as a Town
Councilor

Write-in Abe Kasparian for
Agawam Town Council.

Bring this coupon to the voting booth
November 4th. Be sure to ask pole workers
for assistance in writing-in your choice.

Write-in Abe.
Kasparian
Town Councilor

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Abe Kasparian.

Magovern Is Running For Council To Make A Difference In Agawam

In a press release issued this week, Robert Magovern, candidate for the Agawam City Council, spoke about the primary decision.

He stated, "I would like to thank the voters who showed their confidence in me by giving me one of their 11 votes. I would be honored to serve the people of Agawam by serving as a City Councilor.

"I have watched the council meetings on TV and have been appalled at how the government of Agawam could be reduced to so many petty personality issues. We have several fine City Councilors who put in many hours of extra time to serve our fine town. But, there are others who serve for reasons other than the best interest of the town."

Magovern continued, "I am running because I feel I can make a difference. I have a vision for Agawam and I would like to do my part to see that it is fulfilled. As a member of the council, I will work as closely as I can with our elected Boston officials to help our city get necessary state funding. This will help our town maintain and develop our roads and educational programs. We must develop our schools and keep them competitive with the best educational systems in the state.

"State grants and funds are not the answer to our city growth. It takes local planning and

development in order to increase our tax base. My specific proposals would be a reappraisal of our zoning laws and reactivate the Economic Development Commission.

"We should have an active force working to not only bring new industry to Agawam, but have clean and defined zoning regulations in place. Too many times, we have had problems with a company that wants to make Agawam its home. We should encourage new companies to come to Agawam, not have them run the gauntlet trying to get approval for their building plans.

"Mayor Johnson has done a lot for Agawam, but I consider myself an independent person. I will support our Mayor if his proposals are sound. If I disagree, I will let my opinion be known. If I disagree with someone, I will offer them the respect they deserve. This is not something we find on the council of today. I will try to keep our council on a higher level of respect to all than it seems to have been in the past."

"My motto is, 'You govern by serving.' I hope to govern on the council by serving the town of Agawam well. Please help give me that chance by voting for me on November 4th," concluded Magovern.

Negrucci Cites Need For More Capital Improvements In Agawam

John J. Negrucci, candidate for Agawam City Council, recently cited the need for more capital improvements in Agawam. He bases this need on the desires expressed to him by the voters.

Negrucci stated, "I have campaigned hard to learn the views of the voters. Their input as to the needs of our town is essential. Voters have expressed their desire for capital improvements of various types. They are as follows (but not necessarily in any order of importance):

1. New D.P.W. Garage
2. Expansion of Senior Center
3. Expansion of Public Library
4. Long-range plan for new Town Hall and municipal center
5. Additional recreational fields

"People are pleased with the additions being built to our schools and now want to see other

capital improvements accomplished."

Mr. Negrucci, who is a former pension fund administrator and past president of the Agawam Lions Club, emphasized that teamwork is necessary to achieve these goals.

He concluded, "My professional and civic experience in working with people will be an asset to making these goals a reality.

"I pledge to work hard to change the negative image of the City Council to a positive one built on teamwork. Only then can the council, with the mayor, address these priorities."

Negrucci resides at 35 Hayes Avenue with his wife, Cyndi. They have three children; Scott Negrucci, Dawn (Negrucci) Ushmann, and Leah (Negrucci) Griffin, who all live in Agawam. The Negruccis have five grandchildren.

To Council & Mayor Candidates:

The public is interested in your position on the important ballot question on November 4th: "Should Berkshire Power Construct & Operate A Power Plant In The Town of Agawam?" Please submit a BRIEF PRESS RELEASE on your position. IF YES, WHY? IF NO, WHY NOT? The absolute deadline for this is Tuesday at noon. We will publish all of the responses as part of our ANNUAL ELECTION EDITION on Thursday, October 30th (again, let's keep them concise). If you do not respond, then it will be listed in that way. Thank-you.

Vote Nov. 4th



Come Have Tea With
Gina-Marie Letellier
Sunday, October 26th
At 3:00 P.M.

Meet The Candidate In Person And Discuss
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Space Is Limited — Please Call For Reservations

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State Overseers Clear Johnson On Court Appearance

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After more than a year under fire from opponents of the Berkshire Power project for his role in a July 1996 court appearance, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson has been cleared of misconduct by the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers (BBO).

The BBO found no rules had been broken when Johnson argued against allowing residents to gain intervenor status in a case involving the Zoning Board of Appeals and the proposed Berkshire Power Plant.

Appeared As The Mayor

Although Johnson's law license had been inactive at the time of his court appearance in Northampton, the BBO ruled that he appeared as the mayor of Agawam and not as an attorney for the ZBA.

An inquiry asking whether Johnson had a license to practice law when he appeared on behalf of the ZBA before Judge Bertha Josephson on July 10, 1996 was sent to the BBO in August 1997 by Town Council candidates Louis Russo and Karl Stieg, according to Russo.

Calling the allegations a "malicious personal attack by Mr. Russo and Mr. Stieg in an effort to defame me, to tarnish my professional reputation, and to influence the upcoming municipal election," Johnson said the speed of the BBO review and investigation "showed how outrageous the claims were."

But Russo said it was Johnson who was turning a simple inquiry from a citizen into a political football.

"I'd like to know how it's malicious when a citizen makes a simple inquiry for information. How could Johnson accuse me of trying to influence the election when I haven't mentioned his name the entire campaign season?" Russo said.

Closed Without Disciplinary Action

In a letter sent to Russo on October 17th, BBO Counsel Arnold Rosenfeld wrote, "After review and investigation of your allegations regarding Attorney Johnson, this file has been closed without disciplinary action. We have determined that Mr. Johnson did not appear as an attorney in this matter, but as the Mayor of Agawam."

Johnson said he was happy the BBO had completed its investigation in an expeditious manner (by closing the file just two weeks after receiving his answer to the charges).

Russo said he would speak to Rosenfeld before deciding whether to ask for a review of the BBO finding.

Russo said he believed the decision had been reached before the BBO received additional information concerning Johnson's appearance in the Northampton courtroom a year ago.

Russo said a packet of information was received by the BBO on Monday.

School Committee To Meet Oct. 28th

The Agawam School Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday, October 28th in the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main Street, at 7:30 p.m.

Old business to be discussed is SCR-98-6 - Graduation Ceremonies, and SCR-98-8 - Approval of School Improvement Plans.

VOTE VOTE VOTE
Tuesday, Nov. 4th
VOTE VOTE VOTE
Polls Open All Day

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Berkshire Power Reveals Results Of Recent Polling

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

A poll taken days before the primary election confirms what many townspeople have been saying for two years.

Berkshire Power is the number one issue facing the community, according to the 309 town residents who participated in a telephone poll conducted by Point Group Research company of Plymouth on behalf of the power developers.

When asked early in the poll where they stood on the power plant issue, overall 54.7% were in favor (strongly 25.6%, somewhat 29.1%); 28.1% were opposed (strongly 19.7%, somewhat 8.4%); and 16.8% didn't know.

After answering a series of questions touching on topics raised on both sides of the power plant issue, as well as questions rating the job performance of the Mayor and the Town Council, people were asked again for their opinion on the project.

After hearing arguments on both sides of the issue, support had shifted in favor of the plant with 61.8% in favor (strongly 34.6%, somewhat 27.2%). Opposition to the plant went up to 29.2% (20.1% strongly, 9.1% somewhat), and the percentage of people who didn't know dropped to 9.1%.

Only 15.5% of the respondents said they didn't know what the most important community issue was, but the rest identified the power plant (43%), schools and education (16.5%), and the council and local politics (4.9%).

Although no candidates' names were included, the poll asked questions about people's perception of the job performance of the Mayor and the Town Council, and whether the Mayor's or a councilor's position on the power plant would influence their own support or opposition to the project.

Most of the respondents to the poll (63.1%) said the position on the power plant taken by the Mayor or the Town Council would not affect their opinion regarding the project, even though 63.4% rated the Mayor's overall job performance as good (45%) or excellent (18.4%).

The majority of those polled (63.8%) found the overall job performance of the Town Council to be fair or poor, while 16.9% rated the council as excellent (1%) or good (15.9%).

Berkshire Power Project Manager Kenneth Roberts said the company was taking the unusual step of releasing information that businesses normally keep confidential in order to quell rumors and speculation about the questions asked and about the results of the polling.

"We were concerned that some of the information may have gotten out to the public and we didn't want to run the risk of the numbers being misused," Roberts said.

Springfield Professional Women Planning Gala Event At Holiday Inn On October 28th

The Springfield Business and Professional Women's Club is 80 years young this year, and it is planning a gala event on October 28th at the Holiday Inn on Dwight Street in downtown Springfield to celebrate the occasion.

There will be a wonderful dinner with choice of prime rib or baked stuffed shrimp at 6:00 p.m., with a cocktail hour beginning at 5:30 p.m.

After dinner, there will be a slide show presentation to show how the club has progressed over the years, and the rich history the organization has preserved.

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Springfield media consultant Anthony Cignoli agreed. "Agawam is a town where a whisper campaign can have an effect on an election. We want to make sure the numbers being used are really the correct ones."

Cignoli said the company also wants to dispel rumors that specific candidates' names were used in the poll and that the results had been shared with any of the candidates for office.

The decision was made not to publish the results of the poll before the primary to avoid being charged with influencing the election, Cignoli said.

Some Of The Poll's Findings...

Among the findings of the poll:

- 53% strongly supported the plant because of economic growth or jobs.
- 23% who strongly opposed the plant gave environmental harm as the reason.
- 37% strongly disagreed with the characterization of Berkshire Power as a bad neighbor; 29% agreed that an attempt to override local zoning made Berkshire Power a bad neighbor.
- 51.5% disagreed with the statement that Berkshire Power was being a bully and stifling free speech by filing a lawsuit against some opponents of the project; 25.5% agreed.
- 26.5% don't want Agawam as the site for the plant, but 63.7% said the combination of jobs and environmental standards made Agawam a good site.

• 70% agreed that those opposing a nearby development were usually doing so for selfish reasons.

• 34.3% felt the water supply would be hurt by the project, but 38.2% felt the water supply would be adequate; 27.5% were unsure on the water usage issue.

The top two reasons given by supporters of the power project were jobs and taxes; among opponents of the project, the main reasons were environmental safety, water usage, and a bad attitude on the part of the company.

Cignoli said Berkshire Power will spend between \$55,000 and \$65,000 to inform the public of the facts about their proposed power plant, primarily through the print media and extensive mailings of in-depth brochures.

According to Cignoli, the cost of the poll was \$12,500.

Cignoli said his firm will be handling the public relations campaign through the election. Although Kevin O'Reilly retains an active role in the campaign, other responsibilities keep him busy in the Boston area.

"Pornography Awareness Week" In Town Of Agawam

Edward Coffey, Robert Sullivan, and Dr. Robert Lamarche joined with Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in proclaiming the week of October 26 to November 2, 1997 as "Pornography Awareness Week" in the Town of Agawam.

The local effort is part of a national effort sponsored by Morality in Media, Inc., and local Councils of the Knights of Columbus. The effort is aimed at encouraging residents to stand up against the purveyors of illegal hardcore pornography.

Illegal pornography is not a victimless crime. In 1986, the U.S. Surgeon General's Office conducted a workshop on the effects of pornography, and the following were amongst its findings:

1) Pornography alters beliefs of teenagers about the frequency of certain uncommon sexual practices in the general population;

2) Pornography that depicts sexual aggression as pleasurable for the victim increases the acceptance of the use of coercion in sexual relations; and...

3) Exposure to violent pornography increases punitive behavior toward women.

The group hopes that by calling attention to the negative effects of illegal hardcore pornography that community awareness of the problem will be raised.

Melconian Heralds Tobacco Divestiture

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced that legislation to force the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to divest tobacco stocks and investments from its pension fund has been signed into law by Governor Cellucci.

"I am proud to have stood up to the tobacco companies who have for too long been pushing cigarettes at our children," Melconian said. "At the same time, we are suing these companies, we cannot, in good conscience, continue to make a profit from their stocks."

Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to legislatively ban pension investments in tobacco stocks. Almost \$200 million of a \$21 billion pension fund is currently invested in tobacco-related companies. This money will have to be transferred to other investments over the next three years.

"We have taken an important step here in Massachusetts that will hopefully be duplicated across the nation," Melconian said. "We must discourage, not encourage, smoking, especially by our children."

The tobacco divestiture law is the third major anti-smoking legislation enacted in the last two years. In 1996, Massachusetts passed legislation forcing tobacco companies to disclose their ingredients to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, who will then make them available to the public.

The Legislature also passed the Health Access Law, which provides for child health care and senior pharmacy assistance through a 25¢ tax on cigarettes.

Bondi's Isle Landfill To Be Open More For Disposal Of Leaves

Beginning this week, the Bondi's Island Landfill will be open on Saturdays in addition to their regular Monday through Friday hours for those residents of Springfield and Agawam who want to drop off their leaves and yard waste materials.

The Drop-Off is normally open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and now it will be open on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. through December 20th.

Leaves and yard waste are also collected at curbside in Springfield from April through December on a bi-weekly basis on the same day the recycling blue box is collected. Yard waste must be placed in paper leaf bags or loosely packed in barrels.

Also, backyard composting bins are available at the landfill for sale to Springfield residents for \$20 (payable by check or money order to City of Springfield). A Backyard Composting Workshop will be held, free of charge, at the 16 Acres Garden Center located on Wilbraham Road on Saturday, November 1st at 10:00 a.m.

To register or for more details, call 787-6075. The workshop will be presented by the Springfield DPW and the Mass. D.E.P.



JOINING MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON to declare October 26th to November 2nd at "Pornography Awareness Week" in the Town of Agawam were Robert T. Sullivan, Edmund D. Coffey, and Dr. Robert Lamarche. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

To Council & Mayor Candidates:

The public is interested in your position on the important ballot question on November 4th: "Should Berkshire Power Construct & Operate A Power Plant In The Town of Agawam?" Please submit a BRIEF PRESS RELEASE on your position. IF YES, WHY? IF NO, WHY NOT? The absolute deadline for this is Tuesday at noon. We will publish all of the responses as part of our ANNUAL ELECTION EDITION on Thursday, October 30th (again, let's keep them concise). If you do not respond, then it will be listed in that way. Thank-you.

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LANGONE for COUNCIL

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Ellis C. Langone, Treasurer

Agawam Obituaries

Salvatore A. Scibelli

Salvatore A. Scibelli, 67, of 652 Cooper Street, Agawam, died in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

He was a 20-year employee of the former Sweet Life Foods-Springfield Sugar Co. of Suffield, Connecticut. He retired in 1995.

He was also the owner and operator of the former Twin Oaks of Feeding Hills from 1968-1975. He was also associated with Scibelli's Texaco in Agawam and Springfield.

He was born in Springfield and lived in Agawam for 33 years. He was a graduate of the former Springfield Trade High School and was a Navy veteran of the Korean War.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, where he was also an usher.

He was a member of the Tri-State Teamsters Local 559, and was a former Agawam Town Meeting member. He served on the Agawam Democratic Town Committee and was involved in many local and state political campaigns.

He was a member of the Agawam chapter of UNICO.

He leaves his wife, Maureen E. (Lazazzera) Scibelli; a son, Andrew J., and his wife, State Senator Linda Melconian, of Springfield; two daughters, Rosemary A. Saccomani of East Longmeadow and Marissa A. Greider of Mystic, Connecticut; two brothers, James and John, both of Agawam; four sisters, Katie Scibelli, Antoinette DeCasse, and Aniella Dasso, all of Springfield, and Mary Gibbs of Westfield; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and in the church. Burial was in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Make a Wish Foundation of Western and Central Massachusetts, 1 Armory Square, Springfield, MA 01105.

Sabera Farooqui

Sabera Farooqui, 67, of 100 Riviera Drive, Agawam, died at home.

Born in Hyderabad, India, she attended schools in India.

She moved to Springfield seven years ago and was a member of the Islamic Center of Western Massachusetts, West Springfield.

She leaves her husband, Sultan Farooqui; three sons, Hamid of West Springfield, and Shahid and Zahid, both of Agawam; five daughters, Habib Sultana of Canada, Razia Sultana and Aisha Sultana, both of Pakistan, Yasmeen Sultana of West Springfield, and Amina Sultana of Washington, D.C.; and 12 grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the Islamic Center of Western Massachusetts, with burial in Islamic Center Cemetery, Enfield, Connecticut. Harrell Funeral Home of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Glenna Mae Euliano

Suffield: Glenna Mae (Lackard) Euliano, 76, of Bridge Street, Suffield, wife of the late Francis W. Euliano, Sr., died Friday, October 17th, after a short illness at St. Frances Hospital, Hartford.

Born in Morrisville, Vermont, she was the daughter of the late Ernest & Agnes Beatrice (Trayhan) Lackard. She had lived in West Hartford before moving to Suffield 12 years ago. Before retiring in 1980, she had worked as a registered nurse at Hartford Hospital.

She was a member of the Alumnae Association of the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing.

Glenna leaves two sons and their wives, Francis William & Susan Euliano of Feeding Hills, and Richard James & Elayne A. Euliano of West Suffield; two grandsons, three granddaughters, two great-grandsons, and two great-granddaughters.

Her family received friends at the Nicholson and Carmon Funeral Home of Suffield, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Sacred Heart Church, Suffield.

Burial was held at Mount St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Memorial donations may be made to St. Francis of Assisi Relief Fund, c/o Sacred Heart Church, 446 Mountain Road, Box 626, Suffield, CT 06078.

Jennie T. Sullivan

Jennie T. (Sopet) Sullivan, 78, of 14 Mooreland Street, Agawam, died at a local nursing home.

She was a 27-year machine supervisor for Hamilton Standard Division of United Technologies in Broadbrook, Connecticut, and Windsor Locks, Connecticut. She retired in 1983.

Born in Springfield, she was educated in Agawam schools and was a lifelong resident.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church and a member of the Agawam Senior Group.

Her husband, Richard J. Sullivan, died in 1976, a son, Roy M. Sullivan, in 1980, and a daughter, Margaret "Peggy" Sullivan, in 1969.

She leaves two sons, Richard R. of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, and Daniel J. of Chicopee; a daughter, Joyce Peck of Feeding Hills; four sisters, Anna Guidi of Feeding Hills, Sadie Baevich of Springfield, Alice Orr of Agawam, and Helen Kerfoot of Roanoke, Virginia; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Stanislaus Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Ethel E. Slater

Ethel E. "Peggy" (Smith) Slater, 69, of Alfred Circle, Agawam, died at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She was a professional silk finisher and wool presser for the former Elliott Cleaners in Springfield and Enfield, Connecticut.

Born in Limerick, Maine, she attended Friberg Academy in Maine. She was a 25-year Agawam resident.

She was a well-known guitarist and harmonica player.

Her husband, Stanley Slater, died in 1948.

She leaves two sisters, Geraldine Agarson and Anita Everett, both of South Paris, Maine, and a friend, Veronica "Vicky" Gagnon, with whom she lived.

The funeral was held from the Dillon Funeral Home, with burial in St. Jerome Cemetery, both in Holyoke.

Dwight O. Young

Dwight O. Young, 87, of 31 Ravenwood Drive, Ludlow, died in Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

He was co-owner of the J.O. Young Co. of Agawam, prior to retiring.

Born in Worcester, he lived in Ludlow for 51 years and was an Army veteran of World War II.

He served as a Ludlow town selectman, a former member of that town's Industrial Economic Development Board, the Ludlow Country Club, and was a charter member of the Lion's Club.

His wife, the former Maria Flanagan, died in 1989.

He leaves three sons, Dwight F. and Gerald, both of Ludlow, and David of Auburn; a daughter, Kathleen Pease of Ludlow; two sisters, Ella Grant and Joyce Morton, both of Nova Scotia, Canada; and five grandchildren.

Another son, Robert, died in 1955.

The funeral was held at the Ludlow Funeral Home, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jimmy Fund, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney Street, Boston, MA 02115.

Anna B. Benson

Anna B. (King) Benson, 87, of Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

She was an executive secretary in the Pension Associates Division for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. She retired in 1972.

A native of this community, she was a member of the Agawam Congregational Church, where she belonged to the Ladies Aid Society. She was also a member of the Agawam Garden Club and the Historical Association.

Her husband, Harold G. Benson, died in 1985.

She leaves two cousins, Edith LaFrancis and Emily Hutchinson, both of Agawam; her step-daughter, Beverly Secondo-Wands, and her friends, Peter and Carol Hallock, all of Agawam.

A memorial service was held at the church, and burial was private. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Congregational Church Capital Fund Drive, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001, or the Visiting Nurses Association, Alzheimer Program, 50 Maple Street, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102.

Anna K. Jozefiak

Anna Karczmarczyk Jozefiak, 88, of Roosevelt Avenue, Springfield, died at an Agawam nursing home.

She was a retired payroll supervisor for Easco, formerly Moore Drop Forge Co.

Born in the Indian Orchard section of Springfield, she lived in Ludlow prior to moving to Springfield 60 years ago.

She was a communicant of Our Lady of the Rosary Church.

Her husband, Joseph J. Jozefiak, died in March of this year.

She leaves a son, Robert "Smiley Roberts" of Hendersonville, Tennessee, and a brother, Stanley of West Springfield.

The funeral was held at the Cierpial Grape Street Funeral Home, Chicopee Center, and in the church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, both in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Helen Buonomo

Helen (Corgan) Buonomo, 75, of 65 Federal Street, Agawam, died in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, she attended schools there.

She lived many years in Bronx, New York, moving to Agawam 10 years ago.

She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Church, where she attended daily Mass.

Her husband, Dick Buonomo, died in 1992.

She leaves a son, Robert J. of Agawam; a daughter, Eileen T. Buonomo of Alexandria, Virginia; a brother, George of Agawam; and many nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.



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Off-Air Controversy Cuts Into Tuesday's Mayoral Debate

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Tuesday night's mayoral debate isn't likely to have changed anyone's mind about who they want to see as the town's CEO come January.

But it may have been the first partisan-sponsored political forum to leave candidates on both sides of the political aisle calling foul.

Sponsored by the Democratic Town Committee, the verbal jousting match between incumbent Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and challenger Council President Kent P. Servis served mainly as an opportunity for the public to see the candidates up close and under pressure.

Post-debate complaints included biased questions aimed at the Mayor; screening of questions by a Town Council candidate; and the presence of a Town Council candidate on the dais.

"It was abundantly obvious that there were no questions asked about my opponent's record as a public official and virtually all the questions dealt with my record as Mayor," Johnson said.

Johnson said he had been assured by Democratic Town Committee Chairwoman Gina Letellier that the questions would be unbiased and generic in nature.

Ms. Letellier explained that some of the questions had been prepared by individual members of the Democratic Town Committee who were not candidates for office, some had come from the audience, and some had come from members of the Agawam High School Model Congress.

"I had asked people to ask generic questions, but I had to go with what was submitted," Ms. Letellier said. "Within the first half-hour, I had exhausted the questions from the committee and then I went to the questions from the audience."

But some audience members felt their questions had been blocked, while questions submitted after theirs were used.

School Committeewoman Susan Pettazzoni, a candidate for reelection, said her question concerning standardized testing in the schools was not used, nor was a question asking Servis to describe his educational background and his present job.

"I felt there had been an overabundance of school-related questions and I felt a question about someone's educational background was not a debatable issue," Ms. Letellier said.

"... In An Area Of Public Interest ..."

Admitting that non-debatable questions had been asked of the Mayor relative to the Berkshire Power Project, Ms. Letellier said the questions had been more in an area of public interest, touching on an issue that will be the subject of a ballot question, and therefore merited a response from both candidates.

"The Mayor is both blessed and cursed in that he has a record to discuss and he can talk about his accomplishments. But, at the same time, he can be questioned on his record," Ms. Letellier said. "If people had submitted specific questions about Mr. Servis' voting record on the council, I would have allowed them."

A lifelong Democrat, although not a member of the town committee, Mrs. Pettazzoni said, "I was outraged at the biased questions and the way audience questions were handled. I thought this would have been an opportunity for the town Democrats to shine and show our democratic process at work, but they failed miserably."

While some people may feel the questions were one-sided, Ms. Letellier said, "Believe me, we did our best to choose the questions that were the least objectionable and some of the questions addressed to the Mayor were objectionable."

At the end of the time period allocated for the question and answer portion of the debate, between 10 and 15 questions had not been used due to time constraints, duplication of the content, or points that were deemed not debatable, Ms. Letellier said.

A member of the Democratic Town Committee's executive board, Hampden County Commissioner Abe Kasparian said he took umbrage at Ms. Letellier's participation in the televised debate after the committee had agreed that no candidate for office would appear on camera or be involved in the questioning. Kasparian is running a write-in campaign for Town Council.

Jack Riordan, also a member of the Democratic Town Committee, agreed, "That was my understanding before the Primary. But I've been out of town and they could have called an executive session that I don't know about."

Ms. Letellier said, "I'm not going to respond to that. I'm not going to give Abe a chance to get his vendetta against me going."

Ms. Letellier said if a sufficient number of questions had been submitted in advance, the committee would have screened and selected enough questions to fill the two-hour time frame. When that didn't happen, the chore of sorting through the questions during the debate fell to her as the committee chair.

"I gave my opening and welcoming remarks as the committee's chair, but after that I was never on camera. So, I don't know how that could have had any sway on anyone," Ms. Letellier said.

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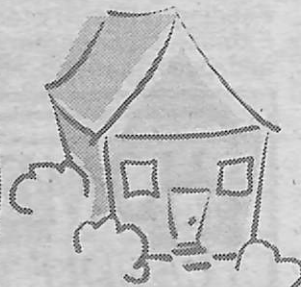
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Families



MR. & MRS. JOHN F. ALBANO

Barbara Ann Walsh Weds John F. Albano

Mr. and Mrs. William T. Walsh of Agawam announce the recent marriage of their daughter, Barbara Ann Walsh, to John F. Albano, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph A. Albano, also of Agawam.

The ceremony was held on August 16, 1997, at Gar Woods Grill and Pier in Carnelian Bay, Lake Tahoe, California, followed by a reception for family and friends aboard the charter cruise boat *Tahoe Gal* out of Tahoe City.

Mary Walsh attended her sister as matron of honor, and David Jagodowski served as best man.

The bride, a 1983 graduate of Agawam High School and the University of Massachusetts, received a Master's Degree in Clinical Exercise Physiology from Northeastern University and is currently completing her doctoral dissertation in Physiology at the University of California at Davis. She expects to accept a position as a post-doctoral researcher in the field of biotechnology in San Diego in February 1998.

The groom, also a graduate of Agawam High School, received a Bachelor's Degree in Physics from the University of New Hampshire in 1989, and is currently employed as the Director of Advanced Technologies at Elemental Software in Carlsbad, California.

Community Grange Plans Bazaar

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills will hold a holiday bazaar on Saturday, November 1st from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall located at 47 North West Street.

Homemade items, a bake sale, attic treasures, and a snack bar will be available. A raffle to benefit the building fund will feature a handmade afghan, gift basket, and hair service gift certificate. Stop in for a visit!

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Agawam Jr. Women Attend Fall Conference In West Springfield

On October 18th, 14 members of the Agawam Junior Women's Club joined clubs from other communities at the General Federation of Women's Club fall conference held at the Ramada Hotel in West Springfield.

In attendance were Eva Jack, Donna Shibley, Carol Patrick, Betty Vershon, Rosalie Dialessi, Ann Woodard (president), Stephanie Bertagnolli, Mary O'Connell, Laurie Snow, Liz Taylor, Eileen Hamre, Sue Godfrey, Laurie Sullivan, Aileen Semanie, and Cindy Sanford Taylor.

Judi Whipling, Treasurer and Chairman of the GFWC of Massachusetts Junior Special Project, presented four proposals for the special project for 1998-2000 to be voted on at the mid-winter conference. The first proposal presented concerned issues involving women's overall health to include breast cancer, biological issues, transmitted diseases, heart disease, smoking, drug abuse, alcoholism, and dietary problems.

The second proposal was presented by a member representing CASA, Court-Appointed Special Advocates. This organization reaches out to children in foster homes who need unconditional love and parental discipline that they lack from a stable family environment. The third is Breast Cancer Awareness, and fourth, domestic violence.

Health issues seemed to be the theme of this conference. Peg O'Toole from the Women's Health Center presented a talk on osteoporosis and gave tips on how to get more calcium in our diets without adding fat. She also informed us how this disease can sneak up on a woman without her ever realizing she has it.

Usually osteoporosis is discovered when a fall results in a fracture of the spine, hip, or wrist. Sandra S. Hubbard, RNC, Coordinator of the Comprehensive Breast Center, gave a very detailed account of breast cancer, early detection, procedures for diagnosis, women most likely to be at risk and statistics on women in Massachusetts who have had breast cancer.

On a more positive note, Christina Bergenholz and Valla Dana Fotiadis gave a heart-warming presentation on boosting one's self-esteem by growing through life changes. She emphasized how we all would feel better by greeting each day with a smile.

Many Junior Women came home feeling energized and ready to begin working on the Club's many winter projects.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the GFWC and the GFWC of Massachusetts.

Kapantais Family Have Baby Girl

Stephen and Tracy Kapantais of 23 A Wisteria St., Salem, MA are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Alexandra Elena on October 10, 1997.

Grandparents are Joseph Cimaroli of Westfield, Elena and Donald Wells of Feeding Hills, and Stephen and Rosemary Kapantais of Salem.

Great-grandparents are Mary Cimaroli of Feeding Hills, Peter Lamagna of Lady Lake, Florida, Stephen and Lorna Kapantais of Salem, and Doris Mansell, also of Salem.



MR. & MRS. KEVIN J. RYAN

Karen Elaine Cote Becomes Bride Of Kevin Joseph Ryan

Karen Elaine Cote of Portland, Connecticut, and Kevin Joseph Ryan of Feeding Hills were married on May 31, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. at Saint Mary's Church, Portland. The Rev. John Ashe officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Richard H. and Elaine P. Cote of Portland. The groom is the son of Joseph P. and Janice E. Ryan of Feeding Hills.

Lauren Capello was the matron of honor. The bridesmaids were Joanne Ryan, sister of the groom, and Laurel Cote, sister-in-law of the bride.

Timothy Ryan, brother of the groom, was the best man. The ushers were Bryan Ryan, brother of the groom, and Richard Cote, brother of the bride.

The couple left for St. Martin after a reception at the Farmington Club, Farmington. They live in South Windsor, Connecticut.

The bride, a graduate of Providence College, and the groom, a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, are both employed by Phoenix Home Life Insurance Company in Hartford.

Paul & Mary Rachek To Celebrate 55th Wedding Anniversary

Paul of Mary Rachek of Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on October 24th.

They were married in Rockville, Connecticut.

The Racheks have two children, John of Ellington, Connecticut, and Marcia Cincotta of Andover, MA, and six grandchildren.

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Introducing New Instructors At The Agawam Senior Center

*** TAP AND JAZZ DANCE:**
Every Friday morning at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. with Cindy Williams.

Cindy Williams, the Senior Center's new tap and jazz dance instructor, lived in Agawam with her husband, Warren, and five children. She owned and operated Cindy's School of Dance in Springfield for 14 years. She currently teaches at the New England Dance Center in Westfield and Simsbury, CT.

Cindy is certified to teach by the Dance Educators of America, the Professional Dance Teachers Association, and is a member of the National Association of Dance and Affiliate Artists.

The staff of the Senior Center welcomes her energy and enthusiasm for dance, and thanks her for trying to keep our seniors light on their feet!

*** HOLIDAY FLOWER DEMONSTRATIONS:**
Elaine Smith will present monthly holiday flower arranging demonstrations through June of 1998. The Thanksgiving demonstration will take place on Wednesday, November 19th, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., and the Christmas demonstration has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

The classes are free, and a raffle will be held to offset the cost of supplies.

Elaine was raised in Agawam since the age of four by her parents, Victor and Marie Dalla Pegorara. Her appreciation for nature, crafts, and art in general began at an early age by following the examples they gave her with their love for the land, the animals which inhabit it, and the beauty of the flowers and trees.

Saturdays and summers were the most fun, as she made many crafts, picked and canned vegetables, and worked with the earth. On Sundays, her dad would take her to great places such as parks, the seashore, and Friendly's for ice cream. All of these activities and more helped her to create the art of her future and present interests.

More background in art was acquired by watching her mother draw, arrange flowers from the garden, and learn the use of color and texture. Elaine's dad signed her up for classes at the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum in Springfield on Saturdays for whatever was offered. Over the years, until she was in her teens, she worked in pencil, watercolors, paper mache, oils, charcoal, woodburning, and so much more.

Mrs. Geraldine Schilling-Nordal was her junior and senior high school art instructor. Her love of art and desire to share it with her students certainly influenced Elaine's endless thirst to learn something new. She has continued to help Elaine in numerous media ever since.

When Elaine was in her thirties and living in the Orient, she began taking classes in Ikebana, the ancient art of floral design. She studied for two years in the Sogetsu school, finding it the most adaptable to western methods. Upon returning to the United States, Elaine decided to learn western design while living in New York.

Since that time, she has given classes in both schools of design, as well as demonstrations and lectures. Elaine is excited once again to share her creative and learned knowledge with friends of the Agawam Senior Center.

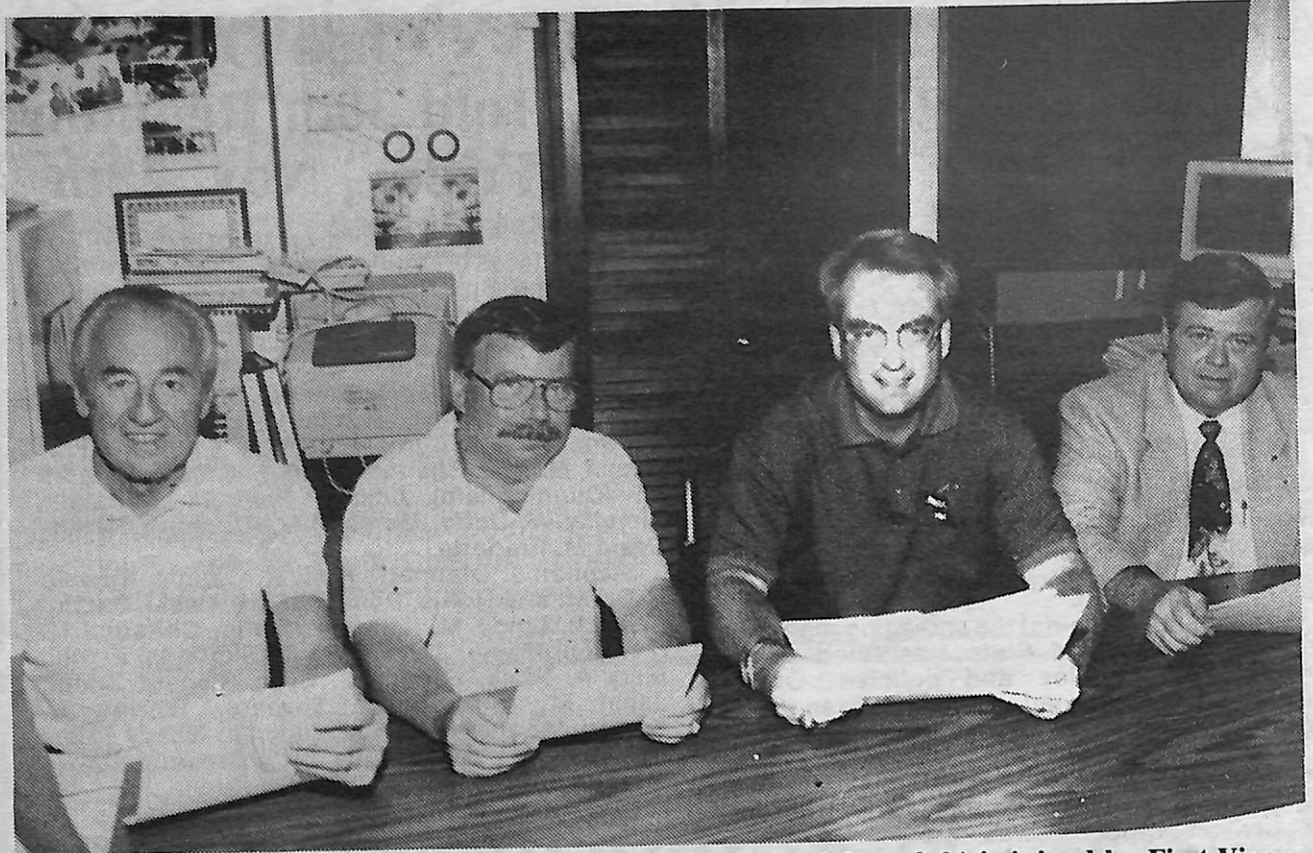
*** JEWELRY MAKING AND ORNAMENT MAKING:**
Lynn Bright from Southwick will be offering two craft classes at the Senior Center: on Thursday, November 20th, at 10:00 a.m. for jewelry making (cost - \$1); and on Thursday, December 11th, at 10:00 a.m. for ornament making (cost - \$2).

Lynn designed her own house and had it built. She enjoys exercise here at the Senior Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

She is a self-taught artisan and has made jewelry for over 30 years. She enjoys selling her wares at such places as the Westfield and Southwick craft fairs.

Lynn has four children and says her favorite job was being the Director of Student Nurses at Columbia University. She has her master's degree in psychology.

The seniors are anxious to have Lynn teach them the fine art of jewelry making. She will be selling items after her class as well.



AGAWAM LIONS CLUB President Bob Loomis (second from left) is joined by First Vice-President Bob Campbell (far right), and Second Vice-President Chris Johnson (center) and member John Negrucchi (left) in preparations for the Annual Pancake Harvest Breakfast on Sunday, November 2nd at the Lions Den in West Springfield. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Lions Club Slates Annual Harvest Breakfast For Nov. 2nd

The Agawam Lions Club has announced that its annual Pancake Harvest Breakfast will be held on Sunday, November 2nd, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Lions Den, which is located on the Big E fairgrounds in West Springfield. The cost is \$3.75 for adults, and \$2 for children.

The net proceeds from the breakfast will benefit Massachusetts Lions Eye Research and other worthwhile community projects.

The Lions Club is inviting all the residents of Agawam to join them for breakfast on November 2nd and support their fundraising efforts. Tickets are available at the door or from any member of the Lions Club.

The Agawam Lions Club, along with Lions International, are dedicated to eliminating blindness and eye disease through the creation and funding

of the Massachusetts Lions Research Fund. The Agawam Lions Club is the first club in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to donate over \$300,000 to the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund.

In addition, the Agawam Lions Club participates in and supports many worthwhile community programs in Agawam. The Lions' motto is "We Serve," and it truly does describe the club philosophy of helping those in need.

The Agawam Lions Club looks forward to seeing everyone on November 2nd at its annual Pancake Harvest Breakfast at the Lions Den at the Big E.

If you are interested in joining the Agawam Lions Club, please contact Second Vice-President Chris Johnson at 786-6297.

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J & B Scotch 1.75 Liter 25.99	Leroux Peppermint Schnapps 1.75 Liter 10.99	MGD & MGD Light Bar Bottles 9.99

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1941

World War II continued. President Franklin Roosevelt began his third term - the first American president to be so elected, breaking the tradition against a third term that was established by George Washington.

As safeguards against the spreading menace of Hitlerism, the United States instituted various government agencies and policies. Of far-reaching effect abroad was the seven billion Lend-Lease Act of aid to Great Britain.

To prevent profiteering at home, the Office of Price Administration (OPA) was set up; to protect the country against the hazards of war, the Office of Civilian Defense was created. President Roosevelt declared May 21st "an unlimited state of national emergency," pledged assistance to all nations engaged in resisting Nazi aggression, and ordered the "freezing" of the assets of Germany and Italy in the United States, the seizure of their vessels in American ports, and the closing of the German consulates.

The President enunciated (July 4th) four principles of human liberty, known collectively as the "Four Freedoms," namely: Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear.

Meanwhile, U.S. Marines were landed (July 7th) in Iceland at the request of its government; and President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain met at an undisclosed spot in the North Atlantic and drafted the eight principles of a document called the Atlantic Charter.

By executive order, the Office of Lend-Lease was established and the sum of \$1,000,000,000 was made available to Russia under the plan. In Washington, a conference on the situation in the Far East was held (Nov. 17th) with Japanese envoys concerning their country's invasion of Thailand (Siam), the Malay Peninsula, and the Burma Road.

In Havana, Cuba, representatives of Latin-American Republics and the United States met in a Pan-American conference to consolidate economic and military cooperation for the defense of the Western Hemisphere.

Without warning, after President Roosevelt had addressed a personal appeal to Emperor Hirohito of Japan to avoid further conflict in the Pacific, Japanese warplanes blasted (Dec. 7th) the Port of Pearl Harbor, near Honolulu, Hawaii, the Philippines, and Wake and Guam Islands.

The country was stunned by the terrible losses at Pearl Harbor; five battleships sunk or beached, three more badly damaged, 10 smaller warships destroyed or heavily hurt, and the destruction of the bomber command at Clark Field in the Philippines.

War on Japan was declared by the United States (Dec. 8th). The Office of Defense Transportation was established to coordinate every inland and coastal means of transport.

best local news...

AHS's Class Of 1967 To Hold 30th Reunion On Friday, Nov. 28th

Agawam High School's class of 1967 will be holding its 30th reunion on Friday, November 28th, at the Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

We are unable to locate the following classmates:

Gary Atwater, Gary Benson, Sheila Boisvert, Henry J. Boisvert, Ronald Bowden, Michael Brown, Sheila J. Burns, William A. Carney, Eric J. Cesan, Marilyn Channell, Mark F. Crough, Sandra M. (Cunningham) Adams, Paul D. DePalma, Timothy W. Duffy, Margaret M. (Dumont) Sifakis, David M. Fredette.

Stephen J. Giannetti, Holly A. Gibson, Edward F. Grant, Joe Hollis, Ronald R. Kozlowski, Sandra C. Lach, Linda M. (Lepore) Wilson, Christine M. (Parzych) Meyer, Jacqueline A. (Simonds) Picchi, Mary A. Ribis, Eugene F. Ryer, Richard Smith, Janet M. (Sokolowski) Thyberg, Warren N. Sypters, Kenneth J. Thompson, and Nancy Tyler.

If you have any information on anyone above, please call 786-8080 or 789-3451.

Heritage Hall Announces Annual Christmas Bazaar

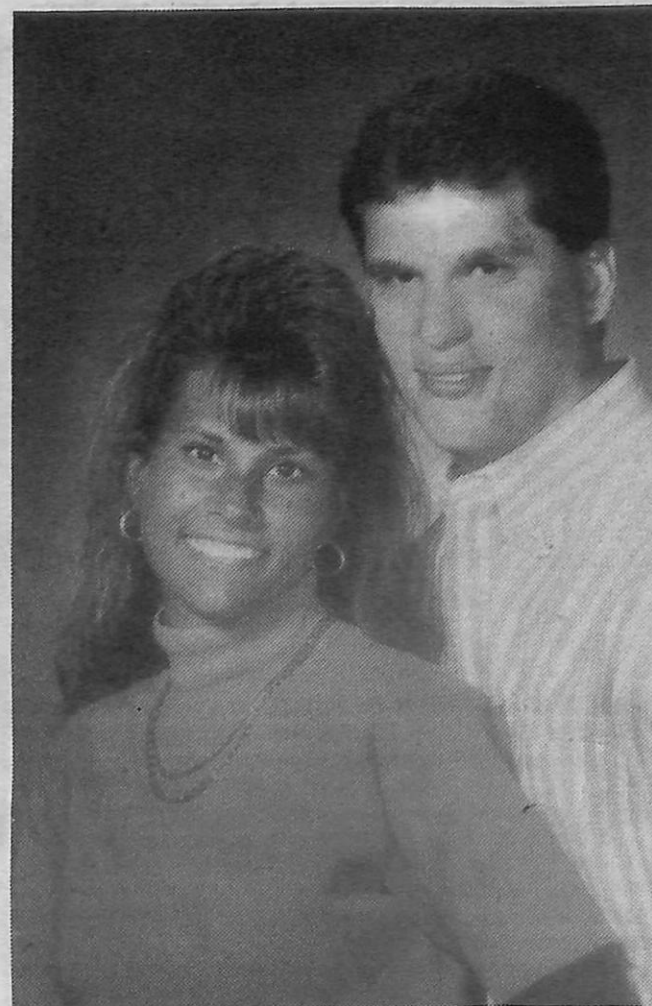
Heritage Hall Centers, a member of the Genesis ElderCare network, is having its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Bazaar will take place on the Heritage Hall campus located off of Cooper Street and Main Street.

Each of the four campus buildings will be selling craft items and baked goods made by Heritage Hall residents and the community. In addition, tag sale tables and the raffles will be held.

Proceeds from the Bazaar will be used for special event programming for residents. The public is encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Kimberly George, Director of Volunteer Services, at 786-8000, extension 217.

Check our classified pages every week



MELISSA L. SPRANDEL & DANIEL ASSELIN

Melissa L. Sprandel Is Engaged To Wed Daniel J. Asselin

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Sprandel of Agawam are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Lyn, to Daniel Joseph Asselin. The future groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Francis Asselin of Feeding Hills.

The future bride is a graduate of Agawam High School and also attended Holyoke Community College. She is employed by the Springfield Marriott Hotel in the Sales & Catering Office.

The future groom is a graduate of Agawam High School and also attended Mitchell College in New London, Connecticut. He is employed at Baystate Medical Center in the Physical Therapy Department.

An August 8, 1998 wedding is planned.

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BABY TERESA ANN GRAZIANO

Graziano Family Welcomes 3rd Child, Teresa Ann

There's a brand new baby at the Graziano's house on Charest Lane in Agawam!

Gary and Suzanne Graziano are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Teresa Ann, born on August 20th. She weighed in at eight pounds, eight ounces, and was 21 inches long.

She was welcomed home by her sister, Maria (8), her brother, Vincent (4½), and paternal grandparents, Salvatore and Clea Graziano of West Springfield.

Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP To Meet On Monday, October 27th

The Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP Chapter will hold its next monthly meeting on Monday, October 27th, at the Agawam Senior Center at 1:00 p.m.

Come one, come all! Bring a friend or two; you need not be a member to hear the program speaker.

Jackie Cavanaugh of Bankers Life will talk on the latest Medicare reform and long-term care.

If you have questions, now is the time to ask. There will be a question-and-answer period after the presentation.

Door prizes will be donated by Bankers Life.

Agawam Lioness Club To Meet November 3rd

The next monthly meeting of the Agawam Lioness Club will be held at Partners Restaurant on Springfield Street on Monday, November 3rd.

Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m., and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. There are two choices for the dinner: chicken Francais or baked scrod.

The program for this evening will be "Past Presidents' Night" (it will be nice to see them). October 28th is the closing date for reservations; call 786-9586.

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ADVERTISER NEWS

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November Events For Agawam Golden Age Club Chapter 2

* **November 5th:** Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Entertainment by East Longmeadow Senior Chorus Group.

* **November 12th:** Bus trip to North Shore. Dinner and musical - "42nd Street."

* **November 19th:** Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Entertainment by a piano and banjo duo.

(At the present time, there are membership openings in both Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 for Agawam senior citizens.)

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 27th: Stuffed cabbage, mashed potato, mixed veggies, rye bread, apple.

Tuesday, October 28th: Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, butternut squash, cranberry, rudi roll, chocolate ice cream pie.

Wednesday, October 29th: Beef stew (potatoes, carrots, onions, celery), tossed salad, biscuit, mixed fruit.

Thursday, October 30th: Vegetable lasagna, Italian grinder, veggie pasta salad, pineapple.

Friday, October 31st: Corn chowder, egg salad, roll, broccoli salad, jello with fruit.

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Upcoming Events At Ag. Senior Center Thru November 1st

Friday, October 24th: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., luncheon outing to the Simsbury Inn. \$23 (bus, lunch, and tip included).

Monday, October 27th: 1:00 p.m., AARP meeting.

Tuesday, October 28th: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Health Expo and craft/bake/tag sale.

Friday, October 31st: Happy Halloween! 12:00 noon, piano music by Art Gilmore; 1:00 p.m., Funny Hat and Costume Contest (prizes — Friendly's gift certificates — for the "Funniest," "Prettiest," "Scariest," and "Most Original.")

Saturday, November 1st: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, TRIAD Pancake Breakfast.

If you have any questions, contact Activity Director Joan Linnehan at 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

Memorial Mass Slated By Agawam UNICO

The 15th annual Memorial Mass for the deceased members of the Agawam UNICO National will be held on Sunday, November 2nd at 5:00 p.m.

Services will be held at the St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Agawam. The Celebrant of the Mass will be the Rev. John L. Sullivan, Administrator of St. Anthony's.

Also included this year will be the deceased members of the Westfield and West Springfield Chapters of UNICO. Directly after the Mass, all are invited to partake of a luncheon which will be held in the church hall.

Families and friends of UNICO are cordially invited to attend. If there are any questions, please call Lou Scherpa at 786-0203.

It's Tap-O-Mania



IN NEW YORK CITY you can see it all, and in this case, it was dancers who had come to help Macy's Dept. Store establish a new world record for the Guinness Book of Records. The category: the world's largest assembly of tap dancers ever to dance a single routine. April Mosher from Mary Ann's Studio of Dance was one of 6,676 participants to perform the tap number and break the record. April spent the morning teaching the routine to groups of performers to ready them for the noontime performance.

Marksman Drum Corps Marking 40th With Anniversary Banquet

Make your reservations now for the Marksman Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps' 40th anniversary banquet. This is in honor of the original Marksman Drum and Bugle Corps.

The gala event will take place on Saturday, November 8th at the Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road in Chicopee.

Cocktails will be served from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with dinner beginning promptly at 7:30 p.m. Dancing will follow the meal with DJ Rockin' Ron.

Prime rib or breast of capon are the meal choices and the ticket price is \$25. There is a special ticket price for active members of the Corps.

For more information, please contact Doug White, Director, at (413) 782-7810 or Ms. Bette Dearing at (413) 782-2227.

Brightside Schedules Adoption Meeting On Wed., October 29th

The Adoption Resource Center (ARC) at Brightside will conduct its monthly informational meeting on adoption, Wednesday, October 29th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Brightside for Families and Children, 2112 Riverdale St.

The informal session will offer details on adoption options and provide answers to questions. Information on programs in the United States, Russia, and China will be presented.

The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, call (413) 827-4315.

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Church News

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. The Service of Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, October 26th, will be Jeremiah 31:7-9, Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "Fixing Our Blind Spots."

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Halloween is rapidly approaching; can Thanksgiving be far behind?

It's such a beautiful time here in New England, why not bring some of that glorious color into the church? Take the opportunity to remember a loved one or brighten a special occasion with flowers on the altar during morning worship.

The Flower Calendar is located on the bulletin board in Griswold Hall for your convenience, or you may call the church office at 786-5061. Many days are filled already, so plan to choose your special day this Sunday.

The Ladies Benevolent Society is a very caring group of women. With Thanksgiving only a month away, they are concerned about the stress level of local turkeys.

With that in mind, the LBS has planned a Chicken Pie supper! Please plan to save a turkey by dining here at the church on Saturday, November 15th.

You'll feel good, be well fed, and won't get dishpan hands!

The Board of Christian Education has enough volunteers to teach the first units of Sunday School. If you were too late to help out this fall, don't despair!

Two teachers are needed for each unit, which lasts six to seven weeks. Names are now being taken to help out with the winter and spring sessions.

Speak to Chris Chapman soon or you may have to wait until next year!

On the calendar:
Sunday, October 26th: 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship.

Tuesday, October 28th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.
Wednesday, October 29th: 7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.

Thursday, October 30th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Events And Activities At First Baptist Church

Pastor Richard Barnes will speak this Sunday morning, October 26th, at the 9:30 a.m. service of worship at First Baptist Church.

His topic will be "The Only One We Need." He will use scriptural references from Hebrews 7 for his text.

This is Reformation Sunday in the Christian calendar year. A coffee hour will follow the worship service in Davis Hall.

Classes for all ages are held until 11:45 a.m. As usual, nursery care is available.

The Deacons will hold their regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Lockhart Parlor.

This Sunday is also the date for the Rays of Hope Walk — a walk towards a cure for breast cancer.

For more information on how you can participate through walking or through sponsorship, contact Nancy Velozo, tel. 739-6879.

On our calendar this week:

Monday, October 27th: 7:30 p.m., Word Search (a bible study group).

Tuesday, October 28th: 10:00 a.m., Searchlights (a bible study group at the home of Dorothy Smith); 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 4:30 p.m., Our people serve at Loaves & Fishes (meals for the homeless); 7:00 p.m., Caring Connection; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

Wednesday, October 29th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

Thursday, October 30th: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

A new group recently formed in the life of the church is called "Sister to Sister." This is a gathering of working women who meet twice a month to share God's word in their everyday living.

The group meets on the first Monday and third Tuesday evening of each month. It has been said, "One of the biggest and most common mistakes a woman makes is to substitute activity for God for a relationship with Him. On the outside, she is busy running the holy hurdles, but on the inside, her relationship with Christ is at a standstill."

Through sharing and discussion, this group is hoping to avoid this pitfall. If you are interested in becoming a part of this new group, contact Mercy Barnes.

Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, October 26th, is the 23rd Sunday after Pentecost. Worship Service continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "A Great Company," taken from Text: Jeremiah 31:7-9. The children's message will be "Working Together."

This is also Youth Communion for the seventh through 12th graders. The Communion Service will be held downstairs in the Youth Chapel at 9:00 a.m. All Junior and Senior high youth and their families are invited to attend.

The Hearing for our Capital Fund Drive is also this Sunday during the Worship Service. Results from the Priority Meeting will be discussed.

Church School continues at 9:00 a.m. for grades seven through 12, and at 10:30 a.m. for three year-olds through grade six.

The Church School will be using the "Whole People of God." This highly praised program will be used for every age group.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is baked beans.

Items collected each week are donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The Senior High Group will meet this Sunday, October 26th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This meeting is for all Senior High youth.

Come meet new friends, bring your old friends, and plan activities and events. Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information concerning this group.

The next New Member class will be held on Thursday, October 30th, at 7:00 p.m. after the Midweek Service. Rev. Fuller will lead the three informational sessions.

Topics will include Church history, Bible literacy, spiritual growth, mission projects, and Church polity and programs.

Spaghetti & Meatball Supper Scheduled At Ag. Methodist Church

Agawam Methodist Church will have a public spaghetti and meatball supper on Saturday, October 25th, at 5:00 p.m. at the church.

The price is \$7 for adults, and \$6 for seniors. For reservations, call Paula or Carl at 786-3261.

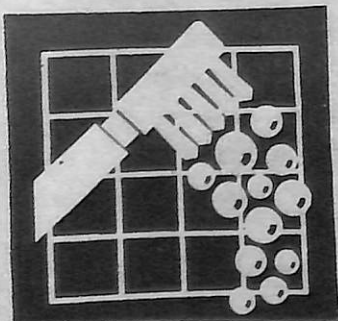
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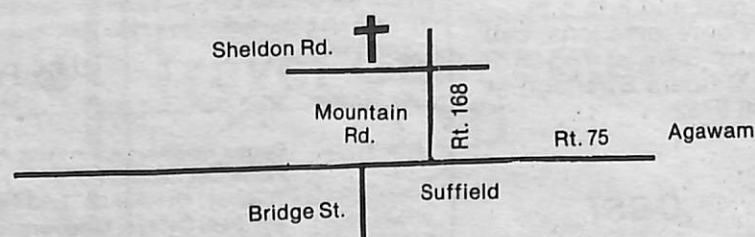
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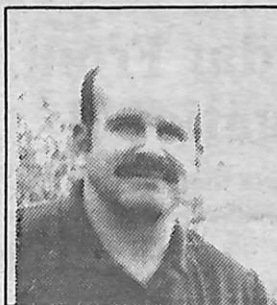
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Church News - continued...



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles.
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 796-8735

What's Wrong With The World?

We live in an increasingly secularized society. In just the past 25 years, our society has legislated and adjudicated God out of our daily activities, more and more. We have gone from "separation of church and state" to "separation of the church from the state."

It is most likely a great benefit not to have nationalized or state-sanctioned religion. History informs us, however, that it is a great liability to exclude God and His laws from our lives.

Ours is not the first generation to experiment with banning God from our lives. Nor is ours the first generation to suffer the consequences of such behavior. The story of mankind is that God blesses good behavior, and God punishes bad behavior. Simply stated, there are consequences for our sin.

We wonder why we live in a period of economic prosperity, the likes of which have never been seen before, yet there still is not enough to go around. We lurch between a Social Security crisis to a homeless crisis to a health care crisis to an under-employment crisis.

We supposedly live in the most enlightened period the world has ever experienced, yet our experience is moral and societal decay. Our divorce rates, our murder rates, and our teenage suicide rates are at epidemic proportions. Something is wrong.

The prophet Isaiah, writing 700 years before the birth of Jesus Christ, diagnosed our problem. The

Lord's hand is not too short to save, nor is His ear too dull to hear.

The problem is not that God set up a world that automatically shortchanges its inhabitants. Nor is the problem that God doesn't care about our problems. God can bless, and God is attentive. So what could the difficulty be?

Isaiah goes on to say: **Rather, your iniquities have been barriers between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you.**

He gives examples by describing how the society of his day had become violent, how businesses had become self-serving and immoral, and how lawsuits were based upon slick presentations instead of the presentation of the truth.

Isaiah's words are particularly chilling, in that they so closely describe much of what we see every day around us. It is inarguable that violence rages in our cities, small towns, and everywhere between.

It is not unusual to read of corporations knowingly selling dangerously faulty products to unwitting consumers, their actuaries coldly calculating the cost differential between fixing the problems vs. settling lawsuits.

God knows what goes on in our individual lives as well as in our society. God know, and God cares.

The Lord saw it, and it displeased Him that there was no justice. It should be of some comfort to us that God is bothered by injustice.

Isaiah goes on: **He saw that there was no one, and was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so His own arm brought Him victory. He will come to Zion as Redeemer, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression, says the Lord.**

Isaiah is full of promises and descriptions of the coming Messiah.

Our hope, as individuals as well as a society, is God. The story of the human race is that left to our own devices, we will fail and self-destruct. That may sound pessimistic, but history indicates it is true.

But the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor is His ear too dull to hear.

Sunday Mornings At Valley Community Have Great Excitement

Sunday morning worship continues with great excitement at Valley Community Church. The church is alive with the Spirit as the congregation listens to Pastor Steve Dennehy relate God's Word.

The public is warmly welcome to attend the worship service at 9:30 a.m. The children of the church will leave the Sanctuary at 10:00 for Children's Church. Children's Church is a worship service complete with a children's altar.

Their service, led by Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora, is a youth's version of the adult's message, explained in a way that the children can understand.

Coffee and Fellowship begins at 10:30 a.m. in Dunn Hall and we invite all our visitors to attend. Church School starts at 11:00 a.m. Classes are available for all ages, from Kindergarten to adults. Nursery care is available throughout the morning.

The Missions Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, October 28th at 7:30 p.m. Many upcoming events, including the holiday food collection for the Agawam Jr. Women's Club, will be discussed.

Our hilltop will be alive with music on Wednesday evening. Choir rehearsals for both choirs will be taking place. The Junior Choir will meet at 6:15 p.m. and the Senior Choir will meet at 7:00 p.m. Listening to these choirs worship God through music is an awesome experience!

Valley Community Church is located "high on the hilltop" at 152 South Westfield St. It is an interdenominational church, made up of people of various religious backgrounds, but all who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. We invite all who are searching for a church home to attend worship with us or call the church office at 786-2445 for more information.

Few Seats Left On St. John's Trip To New York City

There are still five seats left for the St. John's Over-60 Club's New York Trip and Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall.

The cost is \$90. The trip is on November 29th. For more information, call Lil Doyle at 786-9586.

Attic treasures will be accepted at any time now for the St. John's Christmas Bazaar.

The needle and thread booth can use cotton material, mattress pads, and sewers. The jewelry booth can use old jewelry (even broken pieces).

Bring items to the Parish Center marked "For Bazaar."

Chicken Pie At F.H. Cong On Nov. 15th

The Ladies Benevolent Society of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, 21 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills is sponsoring a **Chicken Pie Supper** and food sale on Saturday, November 15th.

The menu will include chicken pie, vegetables, beet relish, rolls, pie, and beverage. The cost will be \$7 for adults, \$2.50 for children under eight, preschool age children are free, with servings at 5:00 and 6:15 p.m.

For reservations, call Betty Bava at 786-0679 or Barbara Swanson at 786-5732.

best
local
news

Grace Lutheran Church Planning Annual Holiday Fair On Saturday, November 22nd

Grace Lutheran Church will hold its 19th Annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 22nd from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the church hall, 1552 Westfield Street, West Springfield 01089.

The fair will feature local craft persons as well

as traditional church shops.

To obtain more information and an application, interested crafters, please send your request with a SASE to Grace Lutheran Church/Craft Fair at the above address.

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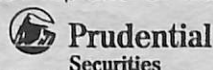
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*Church News - continued...***Harvest Smorg At First Baptist Church**

THE AGAWAM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH held its Annual Harvest Smorgasbord on October 4th. **KITCHEN HELP** included (top photo) Shirley M. Goss, Theda R. Meyer, and Vivian Roberts; youngsters helping out included Tonya Joyce Barifaldi and Mallori Grimaldi. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



ABOUT TO ENJOY THEIR HARVEST SMORGASBORD dinners at the Agawam First Baptist Church in Agawam Center were Lisa Lamontagne, 7, and Arlene Yezewski. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Church News - continued...



From the PULPIT

by Rev. Len Cowan
St. David's Church

Political Flyers On Sunday

I was outraged. Heading home from Sunday worship a few weeks ago, I found a political flier stuck under the windshield wiper of my van. And though I'm not one of those people who constantly cry for the "separation of church and state," I did feel that whoever placed these fliers on many windshields that morning stepped over the line of simple decency, preying on a captive audience of vehicles parked for the purpose of worshipping God, not engaging in political debate.

But what really outraged me was the familiar tone on the flier: its invective, its innuendo, and (characteristically) its anonymity, the "stealth attack" on a public official. Unfortunately, this is nothing new.

In years past, the community of Agawam was known as the place for high-strung, histrionic, and even hysterical political fighting, ballyhooed by the local media ever-looking for juicy stories of intrigue and conflict. I thought that, in recent years, we had moved beyond this kind of thing. Apparently not.

But then I recalled these words of the Apostle Paul: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good, acceptable, and perfect" (Romans 12:2).

As I considered my angry outrage (a response shared, perhaps, by many of us who were "fliered" that day, as well as many in other churches who have been similarly blasted), I wondered if my own anger was representative of the kind of transformation which Paul is speaking about.

I'm asking God to change me more and more into the likeness of Christ, who no doubt championed the truth (at one point getting mighty angry about injustice to the poor seen in the temple), but who also resisted the violence of his day, including the violence of words. I've lately become more and more aware that the accusations I can so easily hurl at this community in which I live are really an accusation against myself: I am not immune from being infected by the invective of the politics and practices of those around me.

I, too, have done my share of "stealth attacking." In all of this, I'm sensing God gathering me together with other faithful followers of Jesus in our city and throughout our region to beseech Him to transform us, that we might demonstrate a different kind of "truth-telling," the kind that comes with His mercy attached.

I also began to think about these words from the Apostle: "God, through Christ, has reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). So I'm also praying that God will send His people in our city out to be agents of reconciliation in situations like this.

It's so easy, even attractive, to jump into the fray, pointing verbal and mental fingers at just who was the anonymous one who wrote such trash, and had the audacity to put it in my windshield outside of our church building.

It's far more difficult to pray for such a one, and to work, both in the upcoming political campaigns and in the ongoing struggles of community and government, for reconciliation, that those who were formerly enemies of one another might become friends, through the healing power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

And so I'm also sensing God sending me out along with other faithful followers of Jesus in our city and throughout our region to beseech Him to reconcile us one to another, that together we might show the world a new unity, in Him. How about you?

Holiday Bazaar At Immaculate Church On November 1st

Reservations for crafters are being accepted for the Annual Holiday Bazaar of Immaculate Conception Parish of Main St., West Springfield to be held on November 1st in the school auditorium from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

For applications, contact Rita Hannigan, Chairman, 739-2966 or the Parish Rectory at 736-4071. Application deadline is October 15th.

Many outstanding articles have been secured for the bazaar raffle as well as plans for a Chinese Auction, bake sale table, St. Jude booth, special candy booth, and parish craft booth.

Luncheon will be available.

Annual Holiday Bazaar On Nov. 1st At Immaculate Conception Church

Special events are being planned for the Annual Immaculate Conception Church Holiday Bazaar to be held on November 1st from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the School Auditorium, Main Street, West Springfield.

Rita Hannigan, bazaar chairman, is being assisted by various parishioners. Chinese Auction, Andrea Burgess; Luncheon, Dolores Burns; Bake Sale Table, Mary Lewis; St. Jude Booth, Helen McDonald; Candy Booth, Leslie Eickelberg; Bazaar Treasurer, Mary Moran; and Floor Super-

visor, Betty Borrette.

Exceptional gifts are being offered for the bazaar raffle: Romance Basket for Two, Ceramic Santa, 50 Lottery Tickets, 25 Lottery Tickets, Fruit Basket, and a Gift Certificate to the Picadilly Pub.

A special extra raffle doll called "Ariel," donated by Marily Barbour, will be on display during the bazaar. Raffle Chairmen are Victoria McGurn and James Slowick.

For further information, call the Parish Rectory at 736-4071.

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<h4>P.J.M. Rhododendrons</h4> <p>15"-18" — 2 Gallon Only</p> <p>\$8.95 Each</p>	<h4>Emerald Green Arborvitae</h4> <p>3'-4' Plants</p> <p>\$19.95 Each</p>
<h4>Carolina Rhododendrons</h4> <p>12"-15" — 1 Gallon Size</p> <p>\$5.95 Each Or 2 For \$9.95 (Reg. \$6.95 Each)</p>	<h4>Crimson King Maple</h4> <p>8' Well-Branched</p> <p>\$45.00</p>
<h4>Large Shade Trees:</h4> <p>Sugar Maples, Norway Maples, Emerald Queen Maples, Lindens, "Shade Master Locust"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Overseeding Of Lawns • Landscape Design And Plantings 	



Spotlight On Business

Legal Memo

by

Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Do The Elderly Need Protection?

Apparently So, According To A Recent Case

The Court held where an elderly, infirm woman conveyed a one-half interest in her home to her defendant daughter, the conveyance was the result of undue influence and must therefore be rescinded.

The Court further ordered that the defendant and her codefendant husband return funds and insurance policies wrongfully converted to them. Finally, the defendants were ordered to pay \$50,000.00 in emotional distress damages.

The elderly woman was dependent on the Defendants for their personal and financial care. She had multiple medical problems and required assistance with all her daily living activities, including eating, toileting, bathing, dressing, taking her medications, and handling her financial affairs.

Knowing this, the Defendants invited the elderly woman into their home, promised to care for all her needs, and told her not to worry about anything. The woman trusted the Defendants to act in her best interest.

At the time, she was 81 years-old, suffered from a variety of health ailments, and was lonely and depressed, having been cut off from the outside world.

Transfer Of House

The Defendants arranged for an attorney whom they knew both professionally and personally to draft a deed for the woman's signature. The attorney did know the woman and had never spoken to her prior to her signing the deed.

The woman did not know that she was signing a deed, did not know that she was transferring a one-half interest in her house to her daughter, did not intend to transfer one-half interest in her house to her daughter, did not sign the deed as an act of her own free will, and had no reason to assume that the Defendants were acting in a manner inconsistent with her welfare.

By taking advantage of their relationship with the woman, the Defendants unduly influenced and persuaded her to transfer one-half interest in her house.

Conversion

The Plaintiff's contention was that the Defendants wrongfully converted money from several of the woman's bank accounts and wrongfully converted money from checks made payable to her by her prescription reimbursement provider.

The Defendants' contention that they had a power of attorney giving them power of the Plaintiff's affairs is totally groundless per the Court. The Court found that the daughter acted without the woman's authorization and consent and that the daughter had no authority to change her mother's bank accounts to joint accounts; no authority to draw checks on her mother's accounts; and no authority to collect funds from her mother's accounts.

The Court found the Defendants liable for converting the woman's various funds.

Emotional Distress

The Court also found that the Plaintiff proved the Defendants intentionally inflicted emotional distress on the elderly woman. The Defendants' conduct in removing the woman from her home of 56 years upon false representations that they would care for her and that she would not have to go to a nursing home, was designed to cause her distress.

The daughter's acrimony towards her mother had not abated, and the Defendants' only motivation for taking the woman into their home was to gain access to her property and funds. The conversion of the woman's funds and property and cashing in of her life insurance policies all took place within weeks of the woman moving into their home.

The Court had no doubt all this caused great emotional upset and physical distress on the woman's health. The Court called the daughter's actions of attempting to defraud and abuse her elderly mother an extreme and outrageous act and awarded \$50,000.00 in emotional distress damages.

Realtor John Schuler Accredited By National Realtors Association

John E. Schuler, Broker with CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., has been awarded the Accredited Buyer Representation (ABR) designation by the Real Estate BUYER'S AGENT Council (REBAC) of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS (NAR).

Schuler joins more than 4,000 real estate professionals on two continents who have earned the ABR designation. The requirements for the national designation included a comprehensive two-day course in buyer representation, a written examination on legal and practical aspects of agency representation, and practical experience in the field of buyer representation.

"Today's real estate brokers and agents want to provide a full menu of services for their clients, whether they are buyers or sellers," explains Almon R. Smith, President and CEO of REBAC. "The ABR designation, the benchmark of excellence in buyer agency service, demonstrates to clients that the agent has taken steps to continue their education in the field of buyer agency, and has the proven experience and training to deliver ethical and professional service to buyers."

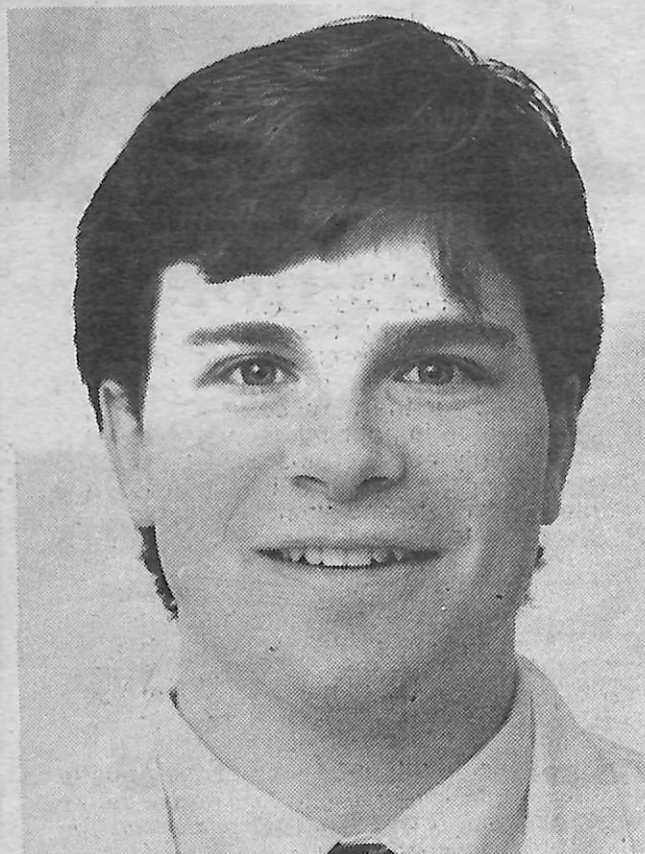
REBAC was founded in 1988 and currently has more than 8,000 members in all 50 states, Canada, and South Africa. The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is the nation's largest professional association, representing nearly 730,000 members involved in all aspects of the real estate industry.

Western Mass. Electric To Discuss Changes In Electric Billing

Representatives of the Western Mass. Electric Company will be making a presentation on the changes in electric billing and the way in which customers will purchase electric power in the future.

The discussion will be held at the Agawam Senior Center on Thursday, November 6th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. A bill before the state legislature calls for the deregulation of the sale of electricity, allowing customers to choose their supplier.

For more information, call 786-0400, ext. 242.



MATTHEW MICKAS

Matthew Mickas On Staff As Specialist At Rowley Hospital

The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) Rowley Memorial Animal Hospital has brought on board numerous new veterinary specialists and interns.

Among them is Agawam resident Matthew Mickas, a recent doctoral graduate from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University. His undergraduate work was done at the University of California at Irvine.

Rowley, a privately funded, multi-service facility was founded by the MSPCA in 1914 and is still located in its original building in the south end of Springfield. The hospital treats over 20,000 animals each year.

Construction has begun on a Western New England Animal Center on Union Street in Springfield. The expanded facility is expected to be complete in 1998.

Seminar

Cosmetic Plastic Surgery

by

Gary E. Russolillo, M.D.

at

Noble Hospital
Westfield, Massachusetts

Saturday, November 1, 1997

9:00 - 10 a.m.

Presentation Followed by Complimentary Personal Consultations

Body Contour Surgery

- liposuction
- breast surgery
- tummy tuck

Facial Surgery

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- nasal surgery
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Steak \$2.89 Lb.

Extra Lean Beef Round Stew
Beef \$2.69 Lb.

Extra Lean Beef Round Stew
Beef (5 Lbs. Or More) \$2.19 Lb.

Fresh Ground Round
5 Lbs. Or More \$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More \$1.99 Lb.

Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless
Chicken Breast \$2.69 Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless
Chicken Breast
(10 Lbs. Or More) \$2.39 Lb.

Fresh Pork Loins
Whole \$1.69 Lb.
Rib Half \$1.79 Lb.
Loin Half \$1.89 Lb.

Whole Butt
Tenderloins \$4.99 Lb.

Store Made Meat Loaves
(Cooked) \$2.99 Each

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5 Lbs. Or More \$1.69 Lb.
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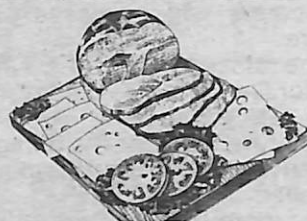
PRODUCE

Fresh Broccoli
(Bunch) \$1.19
Large Size Baking Potatoes
(Each) 25¢
Hot House
Tomatoes \$1.39 Lb.
Bananas 39¢ Lb.
McIntosh, Cortland, &
Red Delicious Apples
(3 Lb. Bag) \$1.19
Red & Green Seedless
Grapes \$1.49 Lb.
Local Potatoes
(50 Lb. Bag) \$6.99

DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk
(Gallon) \$2.19
Hood 2% Better Taste Milk
(½ Gallon) \$1.19
Hood Half & Half Cream
(Quart) 99¢

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Salami \$2.99 Lb.
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Store Made Egg
Salad \$1.99 Lb.

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Plus! Try the new spinning classes! **All for just \$12 and low monthly dues.**

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Fitness First... for health that lasts. *Hurry! Offer ends Saturday, Nov 1, 1997!*

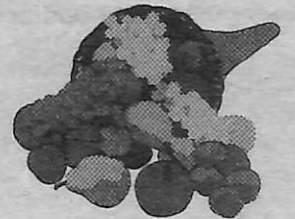
60 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
(413) 786-1460



*You are cordially invited to attend the
13th Annual Fitness First*

"Open House" Day!

**Saturday, November 1st
9 am - 5 pm**



Schedule of Events:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 9 am - 5 pm | Open House Hours - FREE use of the club for your friends! |
| 9 am - 3 pm | Nursery is free and hours extended for your convenience! |
| 9 - 9:30 am | Spinning Demo Class! Join other members & guests for a fun first time spin! |
| 9:15 am | Fat Burner Aerobics Class - bring a friend! |
| 9:30 - 10:30 am | Advanced Spinning Class (For Advanced Spinners Only!) |
| 10:00 am - 3 pm | Healthy Snack Buffet next to courts 1 & 2! |
| 10:30 - 11:30 am | Kid's Clubhouse/Nursery Halloween Party for ages 6 and under! |
| 11:30 - 12:30 pm | Try out the NEW KID'S GYM in Studio III! |
| 11:00 - 11:45 am | Intermediate Spinning Class! Join other members & guests for a spin! |
| 12:00 - 12:30 pm | Spinning Demo Class! Join other members & guests for a fun first time spin! |
| Noon - 5 pm | FREE Family Swim! |
| Noon - 5 pm | Body Composition Analysis! |
| | Blood Pressure Checks!* |
| 1 - 2 pm | Special Cardio Jam Aerobic Class free for members & guests! |
| | Tai Chi Participating Demonstration! |
| 1 - 3 pm | WPKX Radio 97.9 fm - Live Remote Broadcasting & Give-a-ways! |
| 1 - 3 pm | Annual Bench Press Competition for members |
| 2 - 2:30 pm | Spinning Demo Class! Join other members & guests for a fun first time spin! |
| 4 - 4:30 pm | Spinning Demo Class! Join other members & guests for a fun first time spin! |

FREE Door Prizes Given Away ON THE HOUR!



* 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills * 413 786-1460 *

For Your Health



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Study Says Ginseng Supplements Do Not Enhance Aerobic Performance

Men who think ginseng supplements will boost their performance on the playing field and in the gym could be wrong, according to a study in the October issue of the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association (JADA)*. The study found that ginseng (*Panax ginseng*, C.A. Meyer) supplementation at the clinically recommended dose (200 mg per day), as well as twice that level, did not improve aerobic work capacity or oxygen use.

Although the study's authors acknowledge that available research is still incomplete and inconsistent, their findings contradict previous studies done with elite athletes which have suggested that ginseng supplementation has beneficial effects on oxygen use and aerobic exercise performance. The authors add, however, that it is not clear at present whether a person's athletic training status or aerobic capacity level are important variables that may affect the response to ginseng.

Sports nutrition experts who work with athletes have seen a surge in ginseng's popularity, but have noted the lack of scientific research in support of the herb's claims for effectiveness. Georgia Tech Athletic Association nutrition consultant and registered dietitian Chris Rosenbloom, Ph.D., R.D., says, "Many claims are made about ginseng and its effects on everything from athletic performance to memory, but few human studies have shown true benefits."

Some believe ginseng, an herbal plant used for hundreds of years in Asia for treatment of various ailments, improves oxygen use and increases aerobic performance. *Panax ginseng* C.A. Meyer, also referred to as Chinese or Korean ginseng, is said to be the most popular species.

Participants in the study by Engles and Wirth were 36 healthy men who maintained their usual physical activity level and diet regimen throughout the eight-week trial. According to Rosenbloom, the study design is important because average healthy adults, such as the study's subjects, not elite athletes, are most likely to use ginseng supplements because of its advertised claims to increase aerobic performance.

Rosenbloom adds, "So far, there are no shortcuts to physical and athletic ability. A good eating plan along with regular aerobic and strength training are the tried-and-true ways to optimal health and physical fitness."

The American Dietetic Association recommends that individuals consult with their physician and registered dietitian before taking supplements. Registered dietitians are available to answer customized food and nutrition questions by calling 900-CALL-AN-RD (900-225-5267) weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CT). The cost of the call is \$1.95 for the first minute and 95¢ for each additional minute.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.

Check
our
classified
pages



**Chiropractic
Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician**
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Another Exciting Case History...

Here is another exciting case history as written by one of my patients:

What was your health problem? Low back pain.
How long had it troubled you? Since July 1997.
Describe what chiropractic has done for you: It has made me feel much better in just a little time.
What have you told others about your experience with chiropractic? You feel so much better after she works on you.

What would you suggest to someone with a similar problem? Go see Tami Nelson. She has seen both me and my husband and done both of us a lot of good.

Some patients come into the office in acute pain, pain that has come on suddenly; some come in chronic pain, pain that they have endured for some time. In either case, the initial visit begins with a complete history and exam.

It is important to assess a problem before attempting to treat the pain. Back pain due to a

Fitness Tips...

Exercise And Arthritis

by Garen Stoebr
Fitness Director - Fitness First

A question often asked ... is exercise beneficial for arthritis? Before answering this question, we need to know what is arthritis?

Arthritis is inflammation of the joint. Osteoarthritis is the degeneration of joint cartilage, and is the most common form of arthritis.

There is rheumatoid arthritis, which is caused by inflammation of the inner lining of the joint. This is less common, but just as debilitating as the first.

Most recently, physicians have been focusing on cardiovascular exercise and resistance training for their patients. However, flexibility continues to be one of the key components in maintaining range of motion and reducing joint stiffness. It is highly recommended that anyone with arthritis spend ample time stretching the entire body before and after exercise.

Depending on the severity of the condition, a physician or physical therapist may either

kidney problem gets treated differently than back pain due to a musculo-skeletal problem.

Often patients come in with pain who have been treated elsewhere for some time without getting better, yet continue to either do the same treatment or take the same medication without improving.

If you have been diagnosed with a certain condition and you're not improving with treatment, it may be beneficial to ask your doctor why. Some doctors do not like being asked questions regarding the care that is being given.

But many doctors, including myself, enjoy educating patients about the healing process of the body and what exactly is happening and why improvement may be taking longer than expected.

To me, if you know and understand what's happening, the healing process progresses much quicker and smoother. It makes you more aware of your body and what you can and cannot do during the healing process. Because ultimately, it's important to listen to your body and understand what its needs are.

Bodies are very unique. There are times when I may not understand why certain things are happening with a patient. At that time, I am honest and let the patient know that and refer for another opinion regarding their condition.

An important goal for me in my business is to help patients understand their bodies and learn when to relax and take it easy *before* pain occurs, because when you understand your physical body you begin to know yourself more, also.

And knowledge is an important component of life. What better subject to start with than oneself?

prescribe isometric or isotonic resistance training. Isometric exercise is the contraction of the muscle without moving the joint through a given range of motion.

Isotonic exercise, in contrast, refers to movement of one or more joints through a given range of motion. These exercises may be performed with either weights or resistance tubing.

Cardiovascular exercise is a necessity for any exercise program. Which exercises may be used that are low or no impact? Do they affect the joints?

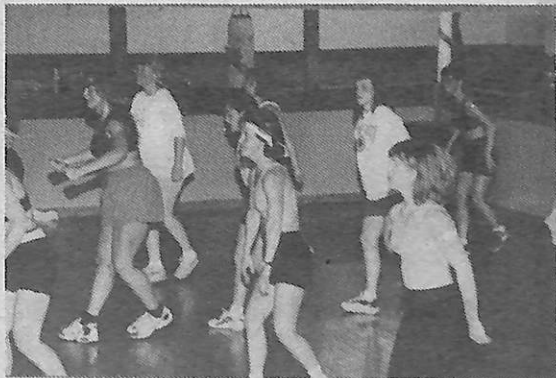
Walking is considered low impact, while cycling and aquatic exercise are considered no impact. One concern is that the pools remain at a very warm temperature; otherwise, pain and joint stiffness will set in almost immediately.

It is important that one consult their physician before beginning a program.

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For Your Health - continued...

Tae Kwon Do Pupil Tested For Black Belt In South Korea

Fitness First Health Club has an outstanding Tae Kwon Do assistance instructor who works under his dad's instructions with the kids' class of self-defense. Just recently the family went to the Far East.

It wasn't enough for Jonathan Wollmershauser to be tested in Korea for his Black Belt at the age of nine. He just had to return to Korea three years later to test for his second degree Black Belt. Grandmaster Chung was very surprised to see his American student, Jonathan, again, especially returning to be tested for his second dan in the art of Tae Kwon Do.

Testing this time and passing made Jonathan the youngest non-Oriental to accomplish this awesome promotion in Korea. He performed all the same requirements as an adult except for breaking wooden boards. Grandmaster Chung said because kids' bones are still growing and might become deformed, they exempt board-breaking from the test.

Grandmaster Chung also asked Jonathan's dad, Grandmaster Mike Wollmershauser, 8th dan in Hapkido and 5th dan in Tae Kwon Do, to join the Olympic movement and in the future certify all Black Belts with the World Tae Kwon Do Federation and named his school "Tae Kwon Do School of Champions."

Jonathan takes his Tae Kwon Do training at two locations: Fitness First in Feeding Hills and at Janar Gymnastics Center on Boston Road in Wilbraham.

Now that Jonathan is a 2nd degree Black Belt, where does he want his future to go? He says now he would like to study Hapkido self-defense. This would mean he must return to a white belt, beginner level, and work his way back up.



JONATHAN WOLLMERSHAUSER and his sister, Michelle, at the Great Wall of China. Here, Jonathan is executing a nice side kick.



JOHNATHAN WOLLMERSHAUSER has passed his second degree black belt test in Korea at age 12. Grandmaster Chung was very surprised to see his American student return to Korea for his second dan in the art of Tae Kwon Do.

Senior Center's "Health Expo" Set For October 28th

On Tuesday, October 28th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Agawam Senior Center will be hosting its annual "Health Expo" featuring over 30 health care providers, social services agencies, and local businesses.

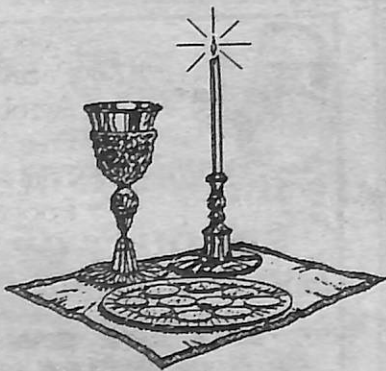
Admission is free, so come to the Senior Center to get information, free health screenings, and much more.

Call Gail Freeman at 789-7199 for more information. Also, make your lunch reservations early. Hope to see you there!

You enjoyed dinner with us at the Big E.

Now come and worship with us.

We offer food for the soul.



The

Feeding Hills Congregational Church
21 North Westfield Street Feeding Hills MA

Phone 786-5061

Worship Service 10:00 A.M.

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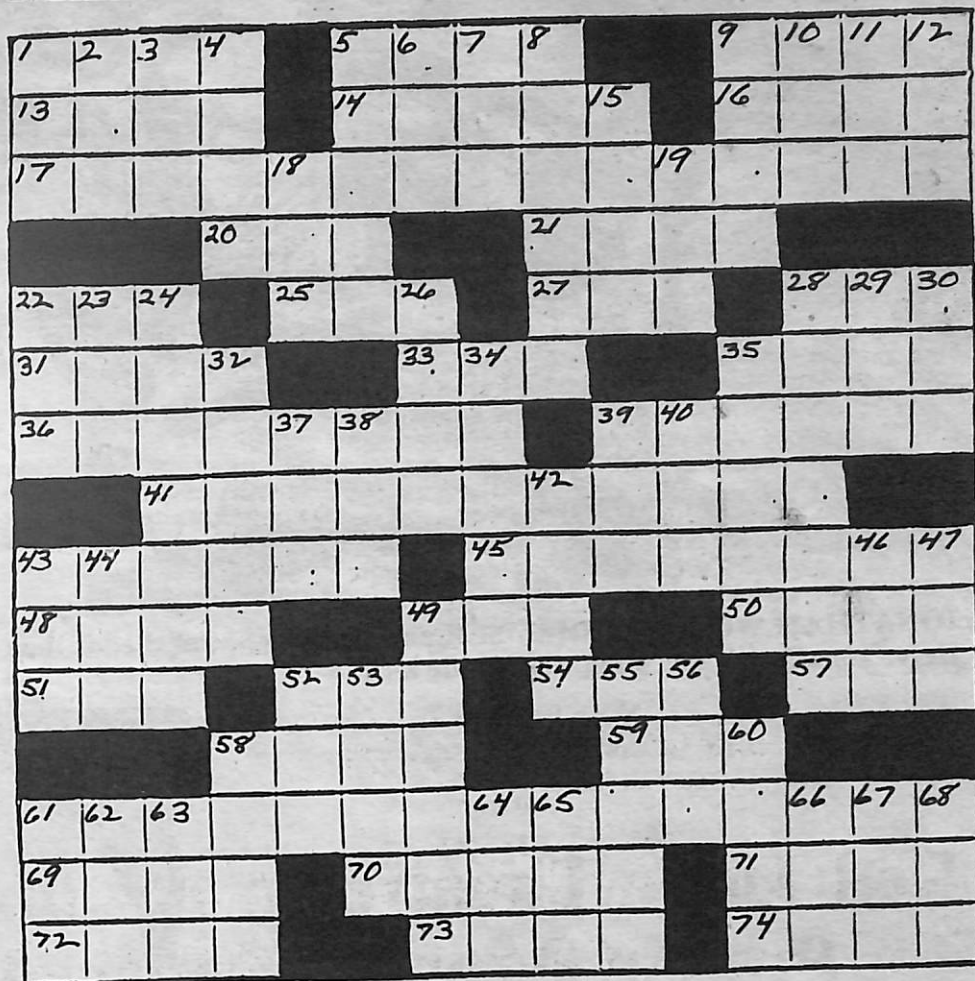
ACROSS

- 1 Door fastener
- 5 Fine steed
- 9 Unravel
- 13 Butter sub
- 14 Type of energy
- 16 Wash
- 17 Where simians rule
- 20 Somme summer
- 21 Try out
- 22 Actress Arthur
- 25 Rainbow
- 27 Dine
- 28 Cha or Pekoe
- 31 Exile island
- 33 Assist
- 35 Loot
- 36 Chicago to Boston
- 39 Aribiter
- 41 Zoo favorites
- 43 Moves quickly
- 45 "— Titanic" (movie title)
- 48 Weight measurements
- 49 C.S.A. fighter
- 50 Martin the singer
- 51 Complete
- 52 Service cost
- 54 Adage
- 57 Type of whiskey
- 58 "— the Red"
- 59 Cud chewer
- 61 British aristocrat gone wild?
- 69 Cupid
- 70 Uneven in shape
- 71 "— care in the world"
- 72 Actress Gam
- 73 Colored
- 74 Bond's school

DOWN

- 1 Scotch beginner
- 2 "— the King's Men"
- 3 Body of water
- 4 Corn —
- 5 Fall bloomer
- 6 Marsupial for short
- 7 T.V. alien
- 8 Swung a club
- 9 Earth shape once
- 10 Mod for talk
- 11 Prayer bead
- 12 "—, we have no bananas"
- 15 Perlman
- 18 Greek letter
- 19 Estimate (abbr.)
- 22 Pollinator
- 23 High note
- 24 Run with the money
- 26 Pond fish
- 28 Cyclone (slang)
- 29 Hearing organ
- 30 Ripen
- 32 A Musketeer
- 34 "— you" (chal-

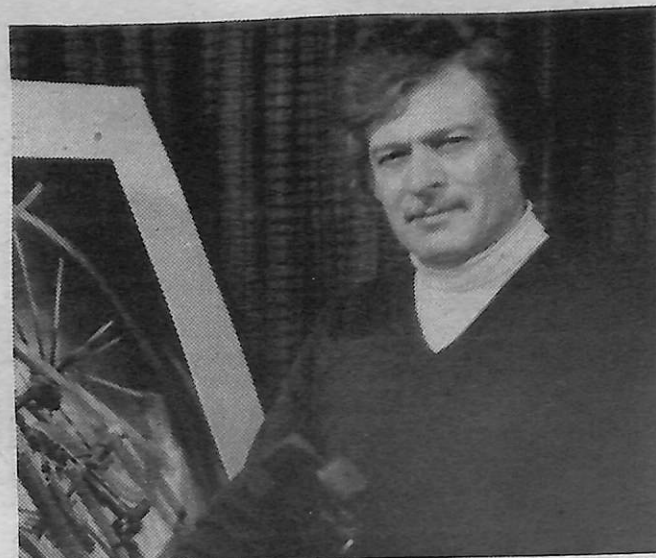
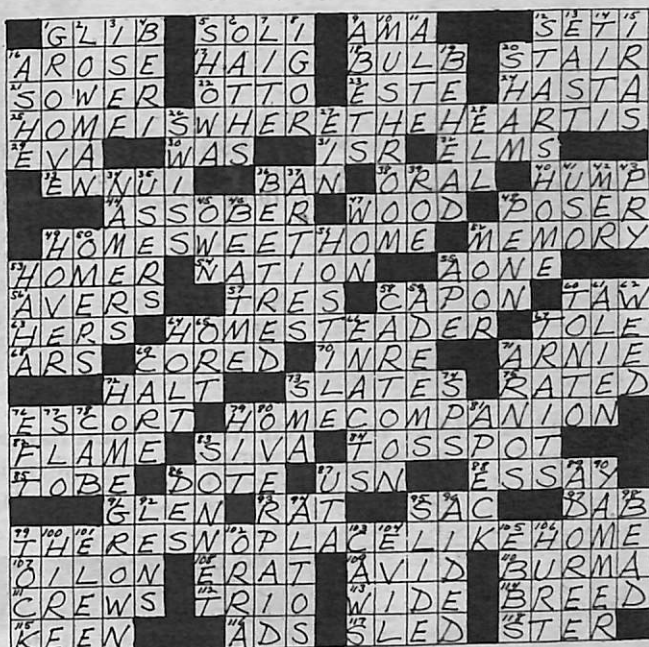
MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



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- 35 Exceed the limit
- 37 Funny one
- 38 Morning hours
- 39 Israeli machine gun
- 40 My (Fr.)
- 42 Captures
- 43 Female saint
- 44 Pro and —
- 46 Stable food
- 47 Compass heading
- 49 VCR function
- 52 Brother
- 53 One to Mozart
- 55 "— all over" (felt sore)
- 56 "— is me"
- 58 Writer/poet Pound
- 60 Abate
- 61 Sailor
- 62 French friend
- 63 Decay
- 64 Entertainer Eddie
- 65 Mao — Tung
- 66 Cooking utensil
- 67 Ike's WW II command
- 68 "— Francisco"

Last Week's Solution...



THE WATERCOLORS of artist Edward Minchin will be the subject of the November 7th "First Friday" series by the Agawam Cultural Council.

First Friday Series To Present Program On Watercolors Nov. 7

The Agawam Cultural Council will present a watercolor demonstration by Edward Minchin, A.W.S., as the "First Friday" performance for November.

The program will be held on Friday, November 7th, at 7:30 p.m. The demonstration will be held at the Agawam Public Library and is free and open to the public.

A reception for the Agawam Community Artists will be held before the demonstration. The reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will give attendees the opportunity to view the Annual Art Show of the Agawam Artists.

Minchin will do two watermedia demonstrations: one realistic and the other abstract. He is a nationally-known artist and will share some new ideas on successful painting. He is a signature member of the American Watercolor Society who is published in many books and the winner of more than 85 awards from juried shows throughout the country.

Minchin's paintings lean toward the semi-abstract. He works in transparent watercolor, as well as in opaque and transparent acrylic. His greatest focus is in strong design, with a liberal use of inventive color.



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“Hallowscream” At Riverside Park A Scary Night

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

If you like things that go bump in the night or seasonal activities for kids of all ages, it's waiting for you as Riverside Park presents Hallowscream Friday nights and weekends now through November 2nd.

Designated as Agawam Days, the 3-day Columbus Day Weekend became a sort of block party for town residents as 5,000 free passes were distributed through local schools and the mayor's office, according to public relations spokesman Dean O'Keefe.

Enjoying the children's activities with seven-year-old daughter Britteney, Robyn Connell said, “Everything has been excellent. The people in the Trick or Treat Village made it more fun for the kids and easier for the parents to bring the kids through.”

Both the Trick or Treat Village and the Pumpkin Patch, where the kids can paint their own pumpkin, are staffed by volunteers from local sports or charitable organizations. On Sunday, the Make-A-Wish Foundation helped with the pumpkin painting while the Westfield State College cheerleaders handed out the candy to the trick-or-treaters. The activities are all free with admission to the park, but many people are willing to make a donation to the charities, O'Keefe said.

During the day, the emphasis was on spooky goings-on and Halloween fun for the youngsters. At night, the scare factor intensifies to bring the terror of the ghoulish season to teens and adults on Nightmare Island, usually known as The Grove, and throughout the park.



RIVERSIDE AMUSEMENT PARK is presenting “Hallowscream” on Friday nights and weekends through November 2nd. There are plenty of activities and fun for the young and old alike. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Red Door Theatre In Feeding Hills To Present Monster Musical

The “Monster Mash” was a hit song in 1961, so much so that songwriter Bobby Picket and fellow composer Sheldon Allman (“George of the Jungle”) gathered all the monsters together and more and put them in a musical play, “I’m Sorry The Bridge Is Out, You’ll Have To Spend The Night.”

The Hilltop Players Family Theatre invites you to spend the night with them, as they present this hilarious monster musical at the Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

All your favorite movie monsters will be there on October 31st, November 1st, 14th, and 15th at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, November 2nd, at 2:00 p.m. to usher in the Halloween holiday.

John Wellgood and Mary Merryman, both painfully naive, find themselves stranded near a castle on the outskirts of Steubenville, Ohio. The young couple, played by Steven Sands of Agawam and Marcy Secora of Southwick, innocently ask to use the phone, but even as their host, Dr. Victor Frankenstein (Richard Authier of Springfield), is placing the call, Igor (Lyle Pearsons of Suffield), rushes in to announce that the bridge is gone — the couple will have to spend the night!

Little do they know they’ll be in the company of not just the Doctor and Igor, but also The Monster (Greg Weld), Count Dracula (Leonard Pupello) and

his wife, Natasha (Marlene Allen), Renfield (Bob Parks), The Wolfman (Scott Belisle) and his mother, Mom Talbot (Debra Lawrence), The Mummy (Tristan Lawrence) and his factotum, Dr. Abdul Nasser (Margie Secora), Body Snatchers (Peg Parks and Nancy Klueh), and a bevy of Draculettes (Morgan Allen, Megan Banks, Danielle Desmarais, Melissa Mateusial, Alison Moran, Meg Parks, and Issy Stinnette).

Unbeknownst to John and Mary, their unexpected arrival has precipitated a crisis, as each of the characters wants one or the other for his or her own outlandish and fiendish purposes.

What ensues is a madcap romp through haunted castle rooms with traps and sliding doors and special lighting, smoke and sound effects that are sure to delight audiences of all ages (except, perhaps, the very young).

Of special note is the opening Friday, October 31st performance, which is a “Come As A Monster (Or Not)” night downstairs of the theatre in Wells Hall.

Tickets for this special party performance are \$10 each. All other performances are \$7 (general admission), and \$5 for seniors and students.

Reservations for all shows are strongly recommended, and seats may be reserved by calling (413) 789-2026.

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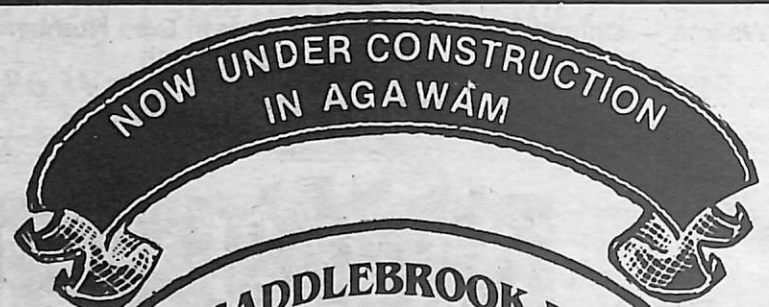
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Education

Agawam High School Expands Successful Tutoring Program

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last year's after-school tutoring program at Agawam High School is back with a new twist.

This year, the program is being offered during the school day as well as after school Monday through Thursday.

Launched last year by retired Springfield Technical Community College biology professor Mary L. Bennett and her husband, John, the program brings together students who are struggling with their academic work and caring adult mentors willing to give an hour or two a week to help a kid.

All of the tutors hold at least a bachelor's degree and many have teaching backgrounds, but teaching experience is not a requirement.

A resident of West Springfield, Dr. David Demers, director of STCC's Biotechnology Program, is coming back for a second year after having been enlisted by his colleague, Mrs. Bennett.

Demers said he has had a positive response from the students he's tutored in algebra. "Sometimes the kids only need help with a few concepts and then they don't need to come back," Demers noted.

Retired from teaching English at Suffield High School, Marianne Gregor, also back for another year, found working with the students to be a gratifying experience.

"...A Caring Individual To Listen..."

"Many of us are willing to give the students our home phone numbers so they can call if they have a problem between tutoring sessions," Mrs. Gregor said. "The kids are finding a caring individual to listen to them and sometimes that's at the root of academic problems."

With the elimination of the traditional study class that used to meet in the cafeteria, the tutors will have a place to meet with students during the District Learning Time periods that have replaced study halls, according to Principal Joseph Zabielski.

Students are referred to the tutoring program after a request is made by a parent, a teacher, or the student (and after Zabielski determines whether or not the student's lack of success is due to an attendance problem).

"If the students are not coming to school, a tutor can't rescue them," Zabielski said. "I try to make sure the kids are trying and still having difficulties with their work."

Zabielski said students in the tutoring program improved their grades in many areas, including math, science, history, English, and languages. With warning slips going home recently, Zabielski expects more requests for tutoring, especially in math and science.

The volunteers are actively recruiting new members to avoid the problem of having students placed on a waiting list for help.

Anyone interested can call Mrs. Mary Bennett (786-3739), Mrs. Sylvia Deliso (786-1859), or Mrs. Patricia Roberts (786-8580).

The current group of tutors includes Bernice Beck (English/history), John W. Bennett (math/history), Mary L. Bennett (sciences/math), Holly Brinkman (science/math), David Demers (math/sciences), James Gregor (business/accounting), Marianne Gregor (English), Mary Libby (languages), James Nodurf (math), and Fred Roberts (math).



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Joseph Zabielski is flanked by tutors David Demers and Marianne Gregor. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Please remember that Jack Devine needs 48 hours notice. Call Jack at 789-0053.



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Agawam High School Class of 1987 10-Year Reunion!!

We are seeking classmates (again)!! If you or someone you know has not responded to the Reunion yet. It's NOT too late!!!

**DEADLINE IS:
NOVEMBER 20TH!!**

You can pay at the door...
but meals have to be ordered ahead...

When: Friday, November 28, 1997 6:00 PM

Where: Shaker Farms Country Club

Price: \$30.00 per person

Dinner Choice: Manicotti Primavera, Chicken Francaise, Baked Scrod

Checks payable to: Class of 1987

Mail to: Stacy Piccoli

49 Horsham Place

Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Please respond AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

PLEASE select meal choice

AHS Band Holds Bottle Drive



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL Band recently gathered at Dave's Soda & Pet Food City for a bottle and can drive. Dave's is located on Ramah Circle, Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Ag. Junior Stamp Club Plans Next Meeting On Tuesday, Nov. 4

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Agawam Junior Stamp Club will be held on Tuesday, November 4th. The meeting will be in the Granger School Cafeteria.

New member are always welcome. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate.

If you have any questions, contact Glen LaFontaine, 786-4728, or Bonnie Moccio, 821-0580.

AHS, Foreign Students Feted



AGAWAM MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON recently recognized "United Nations Day" by inviting Agawam High Principal Joseph Zabielski and the five American Intercultural Programs (AFS) students at AHS for a plaque presentation. From left - Camilla Ringwold (Norway), Simon Tyrberg (Sweden), AFS Chapter President Ric Sardella, Mayor Johnson, Joseph Zabielski, Denise Reinhold (Germany), Wendy Gonzalez (Bolivia), and Raffan Maneechayangkoon (Thailand). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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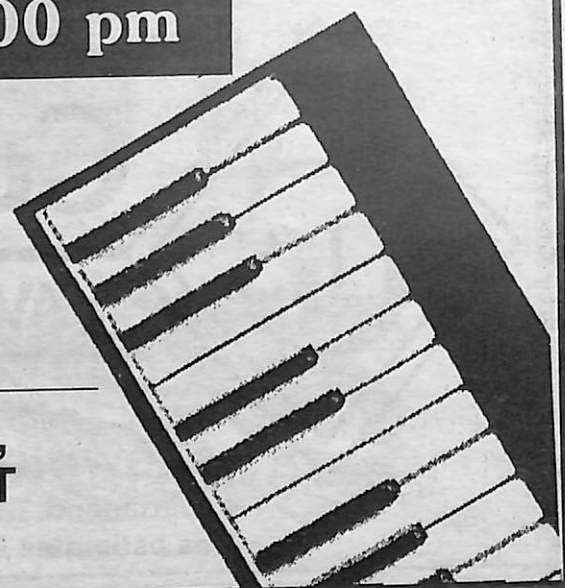
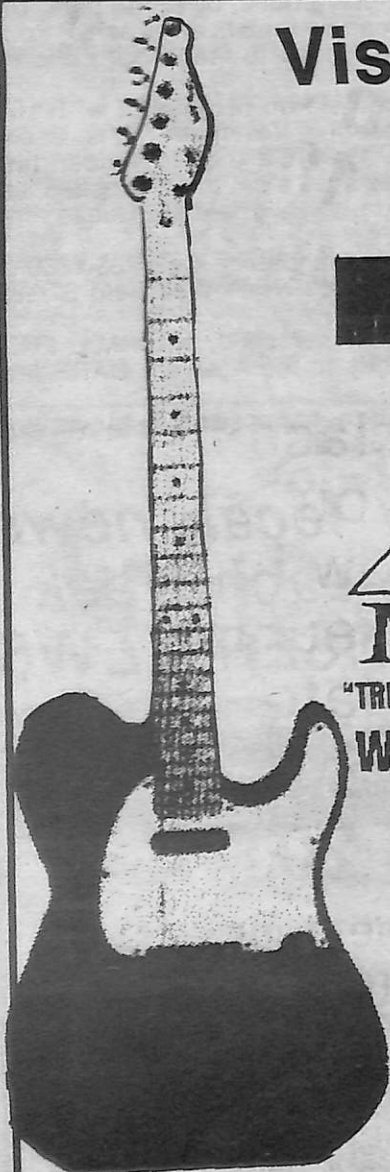
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Guidance Column...
by Paul C. Cavallo
Deputy Principal

The First Marking Period Is Coming To An End...

The first marking period is quickly coming to an end, and for seniors it means that it is time to begin the process of completing your college applications. It is strongly suggested that seniors submit their applications to their guidance counselors by the end of the first marking period.

Counselors must prepare materials that must accompany the college application — and this takes time. Don't expect your applications to be sent to the school(s) on the day you give it to your counselor.

The following information should be helpful in preparing your application:

- (1) Make sure your application is completely done and legible.
- (2) Do NOT fold your application.
- (3) Supply at least *two* stamps with each application.
- (4) If you need teacher recommendations, it is your responsibility (not your counselor's!) to obtain them from your teacher(s). Give them a stamped, addressed envelope. These recommendations are mailed to the schools by the teacher, not your counselor.
- (5) Be sure your SAT I and/or SAT II scores are sent to the school(s) that require them.
- (6) Note application deadline dates. You are responsible for applying before the deadline date.
- (7) When in doubt about the process, talk to your counselor. Don't rely on your friend's or other person's advice. If your counselor doesn't have the answer, he/she can get the answer for you. It is their job.

* Important Date — Mark Your Calendar!

Financial Aid Night: Monday, December 8, 1997 at 7:00 p.m., High School Cafeteria.

Dr. Lee Sirois from A.I.C. will present this very informative program. More information will follow.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES: If you are in-

terested in meeting with any of the following college representatives, you should sign up at least a day in advance in the guidance office.

October 27th: Saint Joseph College, 8:45; Becker College, 1:15.

October 28th: Dean College, 9:00.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation: All high school students who are U.S. citizens and who have taken the SAT or ACT exam may compete. The objective of this foundation is to recognize outstanding student achievement. At least 200 scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded. A \$3 processing fee is required. Deadline: May 30, 1998.

Baystate Dental Care Scholarship: To be eligible, a student must be a high school senior at any public or private high school in Western Massachusetts; must have a B average; be a patient at any of the three offices of Baystate Dental Care for at least six months prior to application; and provide verifiable participation in community service projects or organizations. In lieu of community service, an applicant can produce two written recommendations. Deadline: December 31, 1997.

Governor's Alliance Against Drugs Teen Anti-Drug Lifetime Leadership Scholarship Award: This award will honor 11 college-bound seniors throughout the state who, through school, work, or extracurricular activities, have demonstrated peer leadership qualities on the anti-drug front. Ten students will receive \$1,000 regional scholarships, and one student will receive a \$2,000 statewide scholarship. Deadline: January 2, 1998.

Niagara University Honors Scholarships.

OPEN HOUSES: See your counselor for more information.

Hesser College: Every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. or 12:00 noon.

Forsyth School of Dental Hygiene: Sunday, November 16th.

The College of Saint Rose: Sunday, November 2nd.

Johnson and Wales University: Saturday, November 1st.

Goddard College: November 22nd.

St. Elizabeth Hospital School of Nursing: November 12th.

Mass. College of Liberal Arts: November 23rd, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Career in Art Day at Framingham State College: November 7th, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

American Speech Language Career Day: November 21st, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., Boston Sheraton.

Michelle Dutton Is Inducted Into Bucknell Honor Society

Michelle Dutton of 163 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, has been inducted into the Bucknell University chapter of Phi Sigma national biology honor society.

A senior majoring in biology, Dutton is the daughter of Mary and Larry Dutton of Feeding Hills. She is a graduate of Agawam High School.

A dean's list student, Dutton is also a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies and Delta Gamma sorority.

Bucknell University is a highly selective liberal arts institution that also offers professional programs in engineering, management, and education.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 27th: Pepperoni pizza, seasoned green beans, chilled fruit cup, milk.

Tuesday, October 28th: Hamburg in roll, mustard, relish, catsup, steamed rice, seasoned niblet corn, fresh Mac apple or chocolate brownie, milk.

Wednesday, October 29th: Baked cheese ravioli in tomato sauce, seasoned broccoli cuts, Italian bread and butter, chilled peaches or jello with topping, milk.

Thursday, October 30th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, seasoned diced carrots, rosy applesauce, honey and dipping sauce, wheat bread and butter, chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

Friday, October 31st: Baked pork chopette, whipped potatoes, niblet corn, bread and butter, fresh Mac apple or Halloween cake with orange icing, milk.

Fitness First To Hold "Street Wise" Self-Defense For Kids

There are situations presenting themselves in today's society that require kids to be on their guard. School programs are great to show kids how to yell and identify a potential problem. "Street Wise" takes the school program a step further and teaches the children how to identify and react to life-threatening situations.

On November 7th and 14th, Self-Defense Instructor and Personal Trainer Garen Stoehr will be showing kids, ages eight to 15, the "Street Wise" techniques.

"It is vitally important for our kids to learn how to take care of themselves today whether it be on the streets, in the playground, or at the park. Unfortunately, there can be threats anywhere," commented Stoehr. "We need to teach our children how to stay safe."

The class will be held on two nights with two separate groups meeting. November 7th is reserved for ages 12 to 15, while the November 14th class will be for kids ages eight to 11. Classes last from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and are held at Fitness First in Feeding Hills.

Pre-registration is mandatory. Call 786-1460 or stop by Fitness First (60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills) to sign up.

There is a \$5 cost per child, with ALL PROCEEDS going directly to the Agawam DARE program.

Any questions can be answered by calling Garen Stoehr at 786-1460.

All the local news with us, each week
ADVERTISER NEWS

Learning Team Plans To Meet On Monday, Oct. 27th

A unique, hard-working, and enthusiastic group called the Agawam District Learning Team (DLT) is holding its monthly meeting on Monday, October 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Agawam Junior High cafeteria.

This is a group that consists of School Committee members, the Superintendent of Schools, principals, teachers, parents, high school students, and community members.

Its goal is to help in the restructuring of the Agawam schools to provide the best education there can possibly be. Please come to the meeting and see what we are all about.

Everyone is invited. We need as much input as we can get. Thank you very much!

Our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.



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Town Councilor

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Sports

Brownie Gymnasts Roll Over Two More Opponents To Go 5-1

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High gymnastics team beat Hampshire Regional and Monument Mountain on Tuesday evening in a tri-meet at the Agawam High School. The Brownies came in at 118.25. Hampshire and Monument finished 107.35 and 104.80, respectively.

Agawam dominated just about every event to raise its record to 5-1. "Our loss to Pittsfield last week had something to do with our strong performance tonight," Brownie Coach Angela Sullivan noted.

And strong they were. It started with the bars. Lindsey Hadden took a first place. She is working with a bad knee, suffered at the start of the season, so the talented junior couldn't participate in the other events which require legwork. "There is little or no pressure on her knee in the bars, so we use her there," the coach said.

Hadden, who excels in just about every event, has torn cartilage in her knee, which might require surgery. Second in the bars went to freshman Leila Sekkal, while junior Lisa Marsh grabbed third for an Agawam sweep.

The vault saw another Brownie trifecta. Sekkal earned an 8.05, even though she took a tumble. Elizabeth Clark was second, posting an 8.0. And Michelle Blanchard took third at 7.95. Their performance was particularly pleasing to the coach. "They are all only freshmen. It's nice to see them doing so well, so young," Sullivan smiled.

The Brownies also experienced success on the dangerous balance beam. Sekkal was first with an 8.55. She fell, luckily missing the beam before hitting the mats. Before the quick descent, she had a perfect 9 in her pocket. Marsh was second with an

8.05. "Lisa was awesome. She just stuck it," Sullivan observed.

They had one top-three finish in the floor exercise. By then, however, the meet was theirs. Sekkal took second with an 8.1. Sekkal was shooting for a 9, which she has never had in any event. "We're going to change her routine a little to give her a chance to get it. She is a very motivated competitor, so she'll do it, probably sooner than later," Sullivan noted.

Sekkal was the all-arounder, with a score of 32.10, three points higher than the second-place finisher.

"We hit our routines this evening," the coach said, then added, "We are gaining confidence all the time, which will help us when tournament time comes around."

Third Place Finish At WMass Meet Gives No Solace To AHS Golfers

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

In athletics, one point or one run (or lack of same) can make the difference. So it was for the Agawam High golf team Monday morning at the Western Mass. championships at the Hampden Country Club. They managed a third-place finish behind winner East Longmeadow (338 total) and runner-up Holyoke (339). The Brownies also shot a 339, but lost to the Purple Knights in a tiebreaker deal.

Brownie Coach Paul Bachini, who had seen his team grab the Valley Wheel title again for the sixth straight year with a 19-1 record, shook his head. "It was so close. No one was really shooting well. All we needed was an average day for us to win it." He noted an average road day for them would be between 85 and 89.

What did the Rolling Stones say? "You don't always get what you need." The Brownies certainly didn't get what they needed or what they wanted, either. It simply wasn't their day. Western Mass. champion Chris Rousseau, starting out of the number one spot (as usual), was eager to defend his crown. His four over 76 just couldn't match the 74 turned in by the new king of the

course, Chicopee Comp's Greg Folsom. Waterloo for the Brownie junior came on the par four, 17th hole. His drive was, as usual, long and straight.

However, he pushed his second shot off to the right. His chip landed 15 feet from the flag. Rousseau, who is too young and too good to get the yips on the green, proceeded to three-putt for a double bogey six.

Senior Kyle Gendron, out of the number two hole, had a bad day. "It was just the wrong day for Kyle to play poorly. Kyle would agree completely with that statement," Bachini observed.

If anyone on the Agawam team deserved to be frustrated, it was sophomore Shawn Biebel. He shot an 83. That score was two short of the 81 needed to qualify for the states. (The top five individual finishers moved on.) Double bogeys on the final two holes proved his undoing. He finished seventh out of the 51 players in the tournament.

Nick Bellefleur held down the fourth spot. His 91 was nowhere near what he can do. Bellefleur is a left-hander, and all day he hit the ball left. At one point, on the seventh and eighth holes alone, he

was eight over par. Golf can be a cruel game.

Bob Bousquet, a senior, was in the fifth position. He came in with an 89. Bousquet shot a solid first nine. His wheels came off on the back side.

Another senior, Jon Couture, had a round he'd just as soon forget, but probably never will — a 95. "Jon is a lefty with a nice fade that is tailor-made for Hampden," Bachini said. For some of the Brownies, this day could best be described by the phrase coined by sportswriter John Finstein: "Golf is a good day's walk, ruined."

The coach had no explanation. Most of the kids were experienced tournament players, so nerves probably weren't the problem. The course, while tougher than Agawam Municipal Country Club because of big, fast greens, was not that tough. And it was in excellent condition, which should have elevated their games.

East Longmeadow and Holyoke move on to the state tournament, which will be held next Tuesday at the Ipswich Country Club in Ipswich.

Chris Rousseau, who finished third in the states last season, will be among the five players representing Western Mass.

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MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL varsity soccer team. Back row, from left - Coach Dwight Northrup, Bryan O'Quinn, Dave Thomas, Ryan Grealis, Jay Murphy, Jay Hanscom, Jack Biscoe, Barry Ward, Peter Bitzas, Steve Charest, Gary Montlesky, and Lee Kunkler. Front row - Joe Divirgilio, Dan Balboni, Brian Machos, Umberto Santaniello, Jay Moore, Kevin McKay, Dave Federico, Jay Flood, Adam Blair, and Rich Rodriquez. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL junior varsity soccer team. Back row, from left - Coach Glenn Olson, Dan Marsili, Jon Ashwell, Mike Thomas, Brad Theriaque, Tim Faust, Judd Patterson, Matt Quirk, and Steve Bramlett. Front row - Brian Lopes, Mike Sullivan, Steve Hearn, Aaron Gilbert, Derek Mercadante, Jack Pearson, Dave Gallerani, Wes Scott, and Rob Santaniello. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Brownie Varsity Battles Hurricanes To 1-1 Deadlock

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' soccer team ran its record to 8-5-3 on Monday afternoon after tying Amherst, 1-1. In the process, the Brownie booters (the defending Churchill-Moriarty champs and Western Mass. Division I finalists) gained a playoff berth.

All the scoring came in the first half. Amherst got its goal eight minutes in. Agawam answered with five minutes left in the half, compliments of Dan Balboni off an assist by Jay Murphy. "It was a nice goal for Dan. He got it because he was patient," Brownie Coach Dwight Northrup observed.

Things settled down into a defensive battle in the second half. Both teams had their chances. Agawam's best came late in the game. Junior midfielder Brian Machos had a clear shot from 30 yards out. It just went over the crossbar.

Now that the Brownies are back in the Division I Tournament, the question is: where will they be seeded?

"I have no clue," Northrup admitted. "I guess it will all come down to our final two games (Minnechaug and Westfield). If we win both, we could win our division again. That would certainly raise our stock with the seeding committee."

To Council & Mayor Candidates:

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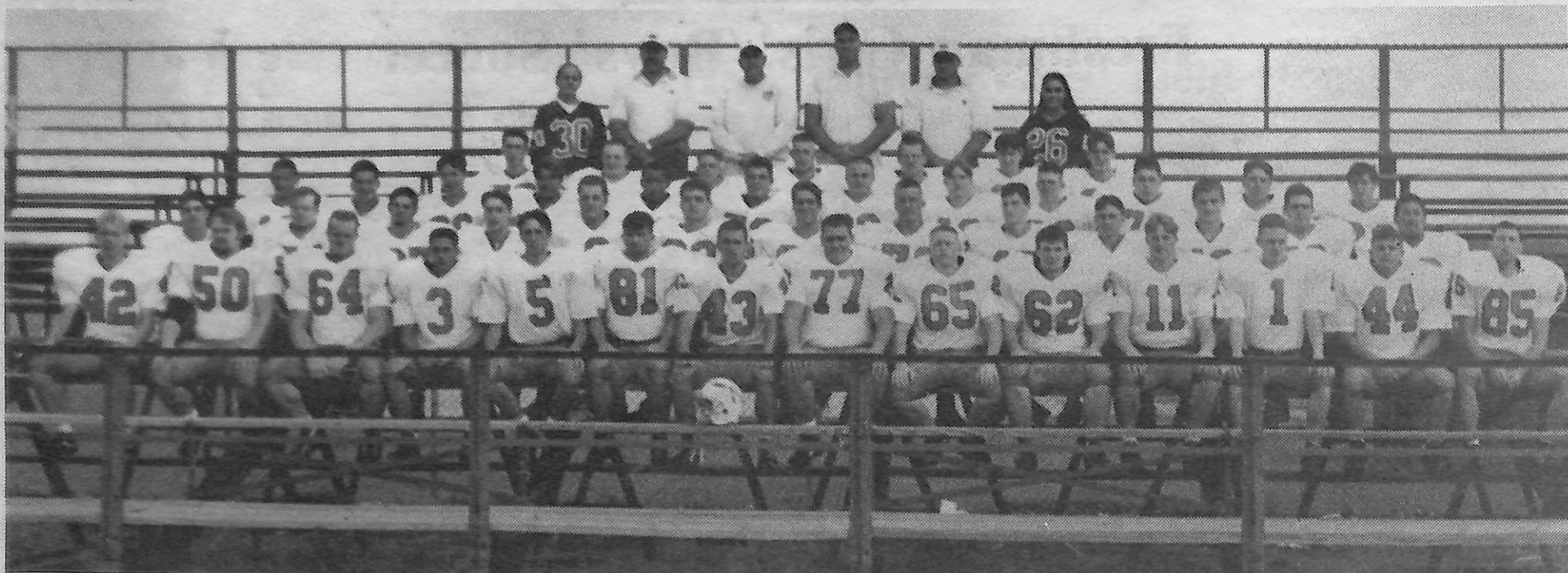
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COACHES AND MEMBERS of the 1997 Agawam High School varsity football team. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Wild Night In South Hadley For AHS Football In 36-29 Loss

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last Friday night at chilly South Hadley High, Agawam High and the SHHS football teams were as evenly matched as a blue suit and a striped tie. South Hadley won the thing, 36-29, because they added something, maybe like a vest or a pair of wingtips.

In this case, it was the eight-man defensive line, which (if you're not careful) can be suicide. It is not designed to stop the pass. If you play it right and get to the point of the attack, it can be a run killer. That's what the Tigers needed in this one.

They had all seen Agawam's performance the previous week against Holyoke High, when the Brownies buried the Knights, 33-8. They had seen Agawam tailback Brian Gallagher romp for 256 yards and four TD's. If that happened in this one, the same fate that befell Holyoke would certainly be visited upon them.

That eight-man set-up on their defensive line was the answer to their prayers. It wasn't necessarily a brilliant move by the Tiger coaches. It was a matter of survival. They figured the Brownies might still try to run it down their throats and invited them to do it.

South Hadley scored twice right off. The first came at 6:32 of the first quarter. The second occurred just under two minutes later at 4:08 to make it 15-0. It looked like a runaway.

But the Brownies are a bit better than to be blown out by the likes of the Tigers. Gallagher, who had 74 yards on 27 carries despite being hammered and hammered again, is a warrior. He ran one in from the one-yard line at 11:30 of the second quarter for his first score of the game. Mike Pedraza grabbed the two-pointer from quarterback Brian St. Jean. It stood at 15-8, South Hadley.

Brownies Hope To Stay On AA Track By Dropping Westfield On Friday Night

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High School football's next opponent will be Westfield High on Friday night at Bullens Field. Last season, the two teams met at Harmon Smith Field, with the Brownies belting the Bombers, 21-3. However, there was enough belting going on to satisfy both clubs because both of these teams like to play a physical game.

The Bombers come in at 2-3. Agawam is 2-3. It's an AA Conference game for both teams, where the Brownies stand at 2-0 while Westfield is 0-1. Both clubs are coming off a loss: Agawam had a frustrating one to South Hadley (36-26), and Westfield bowed to Comp (14-7).

The Bombers run out of the "I" formation with a bunch of weapons who could show up on any given night. Quarterback Brendon Witherell (five TD passes) can drop or roll out with the best of them. He has three TD's via the run. Witherell's big receiver is Sergio Bonavita, who has caught three TD passes and opens up a defense when he gets into the opposing backfield. Running back Harry Bonsu isn't a big scorer, but he keeps a defense honest with timely runs now and then.

The Westfield defense is a 4-3. But they may have some wrinkles for the Brownies after seeing

The second Agawam score came on a pro-quality bootleg from St. Jean (6-10, 129 yards, 1 TD, three interceptions) to Pedraza (3-30, one TD, one two-point conversion) at 4:36 of the second. The two-point pass died like a wingshot duck. But the score was very much alive, 15-14, Tigers.

Mike Wing, who had been playing his usual splendid game for Agawam on both offense and defense, bolted up the middle for 35 yards and a score with 3:35 left. St. Jean's two-point conversion gave Agawam a 22-15 advantage.

St. Jean, who complements Wing perfectly in the defensive backfield, showed why he is so valuable because you really can't pick on either of them unless you fling the perfect missile. He was looking at a great pass by the Tigers that went his way from the enemy 35 to the Agawam 40. St. Jean ran down his man at the 15, saving a score.

However, the Tigers did score on a short pass to get it to 22-21, Agawam, with 1:12 left in the half. They tied it on the extra point. It was 22-22 going into the lockerroom.

The Brownies' Second-Half "Drive"...

Agawam was driving to start the second half. A South Hadley interception stopped that in short order. Meanwhile, Gallagher was having all kinds of problems, as was his offensive line in their efforts to block for him (his longest gain of the day was nine yards). Eight on five does not make it, even with the skillful blocking of fullback Vinny Curto leading the big back.

The defense, despite the fine play from Wing, St. Jean, Gallagher, Bob Fuller (one sack), Norm Gagne, and Eric Pederson (one sack) were having problems with a very simple South Hadley attack. It was obvious in this one, sometimes the "D" needs help.

how South Hadley shut down the Agawam running game last Friday by using an eight-man line.

When the Bombers have won this season, it has usually been by a big score: 35-0 over East Longmeadow, and 44-7 over Amherst. That's because Witherell's offensive line, while not big, has given him time to throw. Also, Westfield's defense has been opportunistic in those contests, forcing many turnovers with interceptions and fumble recoveries.

Westfield is explosive when someone gives them the chance. Agawam, which doesn't turn the ball over on the run, has to be careful when they put it up.

Once again, Brownie Coach Dean Vecchiarelli will have to stress physical play and also be wary of any moves the Bombers might make to shut down his running game.

They've had one common opponent this season — Holyoke. The Brownies beat the Knights, 33-8. Holyoke beat Westfield, 34-20.

If the locals prevail, it will put them at 3-0 in the Conference and keep things interesting, with Cathedral and Central coming up.

They got it at 7:10 of the third quarter. Wing caught a deflection at the South Hadley 22 and lugged it to the Tiger 13. Gallagher, after two hard-working attempts, took it over from the two. Tony Planzo's kick made it 29-22, Brownies.

South Hadley tied it with 1:41 left in the third quarter on a 43-yard fly. The extra point saw it at 29-all.

South Hadley would win it after their second pick of the game at 1:33 of the third. Their defense, confident now, controlled the play.

The final Tiger touchdown was a flag pattern into the left-hand corner. It was a perfectly thrown ball from Mike Marion (all alone) to wideout Jeff Bourque to seal Agawam's fate.

Agawam goes to 2-3. It was an independent game. So, the Brownies are still 2-0 in the AA Conference.

BROWNIE NOTES: Despite the fact that Gallagher's streak of three straight 100-yard games was broken, he has seven touchdowns for the season.

Mike Wing now has 13 catches for 344 yards, good for three TD's. His longest is 57 yards. He's averaging 26 yards a catch.

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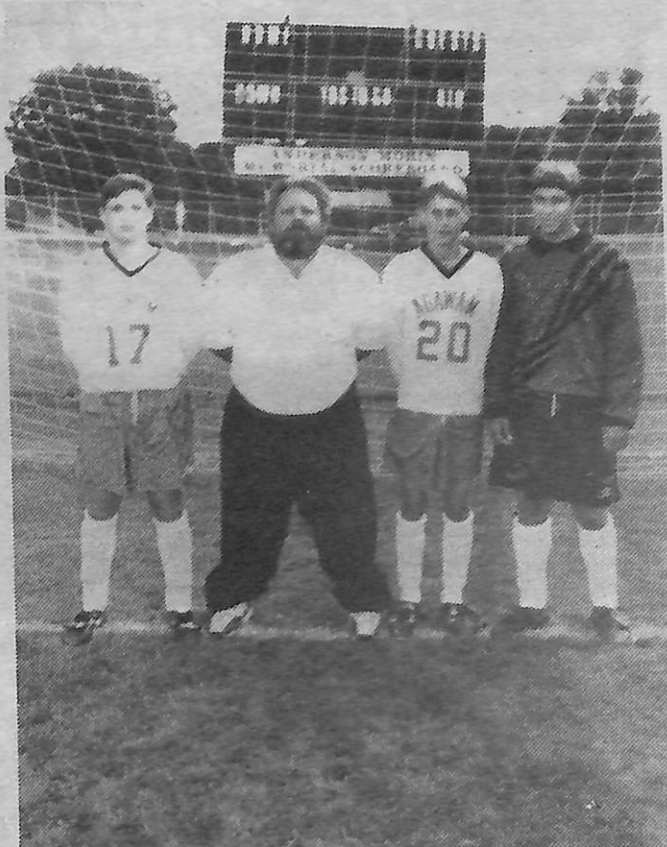
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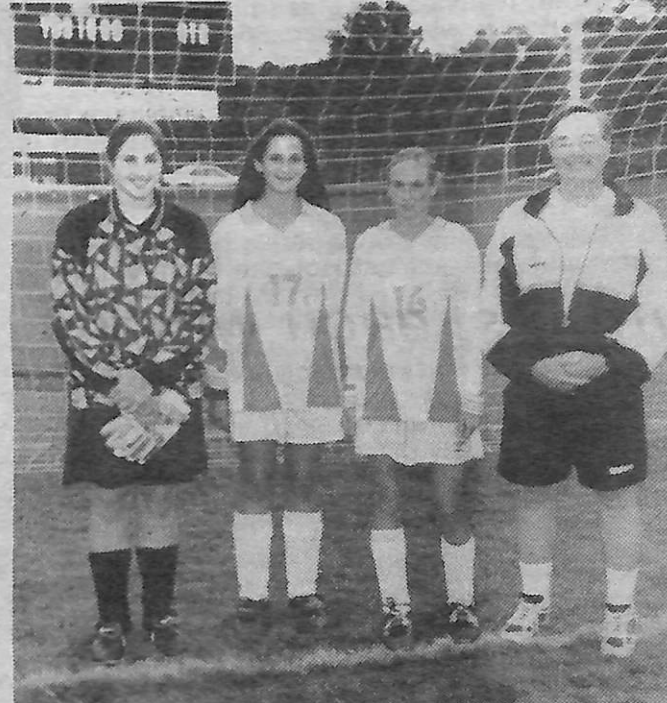
TEAM MEMBERS of the 1997 Agawam High boys' freshman soccer team. Back row -Coach Al O'Quinn, Travis Cowles, Chet Comee, Josh Dickman, Greg Boisvert, Jim Evans, Dan Vinton, Brandon Donovan, Mike Shea, Steve Messina, Bill Campana, Tim Chretien, and Steve Pilegi. Front row - Brian Foley, Corey Federico, Sean DeVall, Jeff Fay, John Decaro, Nick Broska, Shawn Mercadante, Mike Federico, and Adam Mouneimneh. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



COACH AL O'QUINN and his 1997 freshman boys' soccer captains, from left -Jim Evans, Brandon Donovan, and John Decaro. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MEMBERS OF THE 1997 freshman girls' soccer team. Back row, from left - Shawnee Demers, Keegan Clark, Lisa Bienia, Carey Baum, Heather Bussiere, Sarah Lottermoser, Becky Crum, Amy Jensen (captain), and Coach Mike Dobise. Middle row - Lauren Kida, Stephanie Pettazzoni (captain), Vanessa Planzo, Heather Newalu, Valerie Siedlik, Davida Flynn, Stephanie Knodler, and Emily Norris. Front row - Becky Adams, Laura Bucalo (captain), and Becca Nacewicz. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



COACH MIKE DOBISE and his 1997 girls' freshman soccer captains, from left - Laura Bucalo, Stephanie Pettazzoni, and Amy Jensen. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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AHS JV & Frosh Round-Up

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

FOOTBALL

The Agawam High School junior varsity football team defeated the South Hadley team by the score of 14-8. This victory raised the Brownies' record to 4-1.

In freshman football action, Agawam had a tough one against South Hadley, but ultimately won, 6-0. The young Brownies' score came late in the game. **Matt Dion** recovered a Tiger fumble. With 2½ minutes left, Coach Kirk Parker had his kids go for it.

The result — an 80-yard pass and run from **Joe Kancour** to **Chris Tendone**. This win over South Hadley kept the freshmen's record perfect at 4-0.

BOYS' SOCCER

The JV boys' team beat Amherst, 1-0, to go 10-4-2. **Dave Gallerani** got the goal, and **Adam Blair** had the assist.

Coach Glenn Olson singled out the play of keeper **Derek Mercadante**, along with midfielders **Jon Ashwell** and **Jack Pearson**, as big factors in the win.

GIRLS' SOCCER

The JV girls' soccer team lost to Cathedral, 1-0, but they beat Minnechaug to go to 9-2-3. JV Coach Lynda Kunasek noted that her team has given up only seven goals to this point in the season.

In freshman action, the girls beat both Cathedral, 3-1, and Minnechaug, 2-0, to go to 8-2-1. **Becky Adams** had one of the goals against Cathedral, and **Amy Jensen** had two assists.

In the Minnechaug game, **David Flynn** had a goal and an assist, and **Lisa Bienia** had the other score.

FIELD HOCKEY

Agawam High's junior varsity field hockey team beat West Side, 2-0.

Jenn Harvey scored both of the Brownies' goals in this game.

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AHS Freshman Girls' Field Hockey



COACH KELLY HELLSTEIN and members of her 1997 Agawam High School freshman girls' field hockey team. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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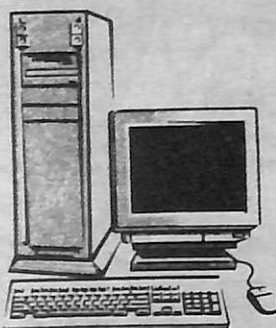


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Brownie Field Hockey Keep Tourney Hopes Alive With 1-0 Win

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High field hockey team hosted West Springfield Monday afternoon and came away with a 1-0 win to raise their record to 8-8.

The game has been a defensive battle throughout the first half, with the Brownies' Melissa Berry, Heather Hughes, Danielle DeForge, and Sarah Prussman stepping up to meet the Spartan offensive thrusts. In the net, sophomore keeper Mary Elizabeth Dupelle had another good effort, turning away 15 shots.

The win was accomplished without star forward Stephanie Fleming, who is out with mononucleosis. Coach Carla Lemnah-Warner said they'll have to play their final two games with the thought that Fleming won't be back. Agawam needs two more points to get into the playoffs. If they get there, Fleming's absence will really test the team.

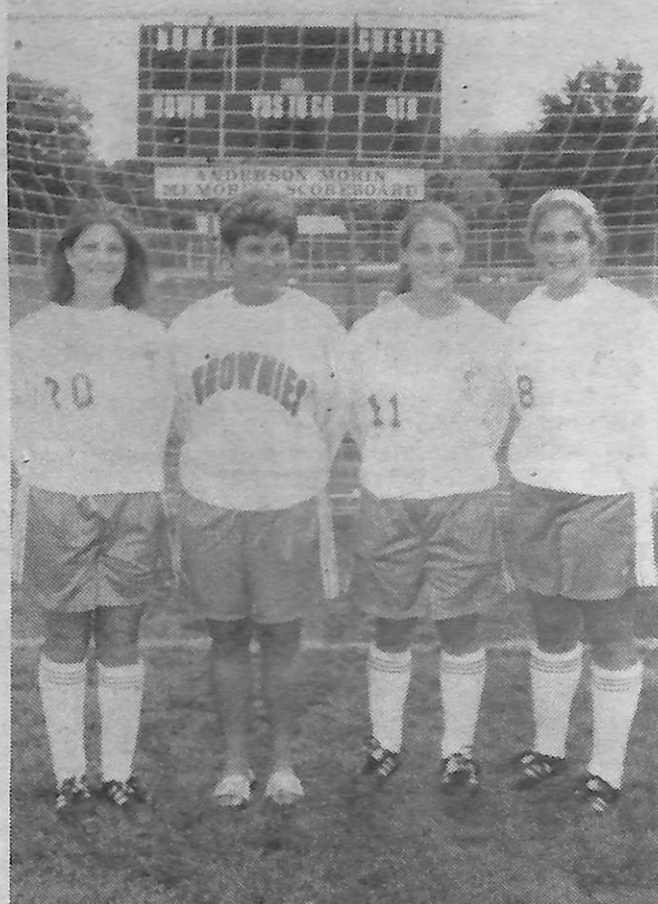
Patty Zerra scored for the Brownies at 16:26 of the second half. The assist went to Allison Pratt. "I told Patty she has the ability to score," the coach said, adding, "She just needed some convincing from me. I think she has the picture now."

Ag. Wrestling Club Planning Sign-Ups

The Agawam Wrestling Club is presently holding sign-ups at the Agawam Parks & Recreation office (the rear of the High School) from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. weekdays.

For further information, contact Dan Sullivan at 786-6265 or Kirk Parker at 786-6604.

Qualified For Tourney



FOUR REASONS why the Agawam High girls' varsity soccer team has qualified for the Division I Tournament with a record of 9-5-3 at presstime, from left - Captain Amber Conte, Coach Mary Murray, Captain Kristen Patterson, and Captain Jill Demarco. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AHS FIELD HOCKEY COACH Carla Lemnah-Warner is pictured with her 1997 varsity field hockey team captains. From left - Melissa Berry, Ali Pratt, and Stephanie Fleming. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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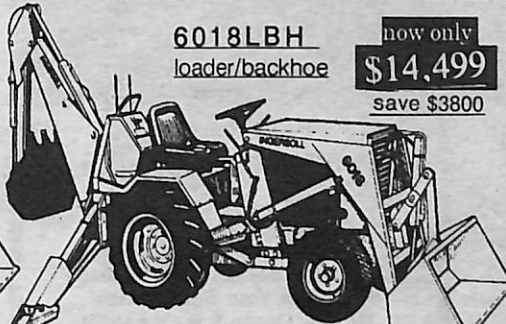
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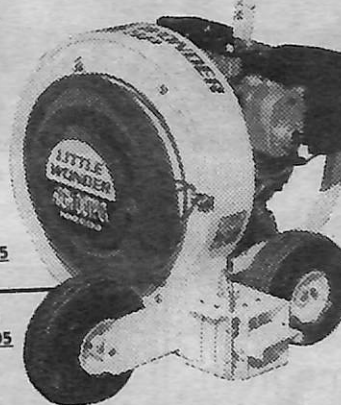
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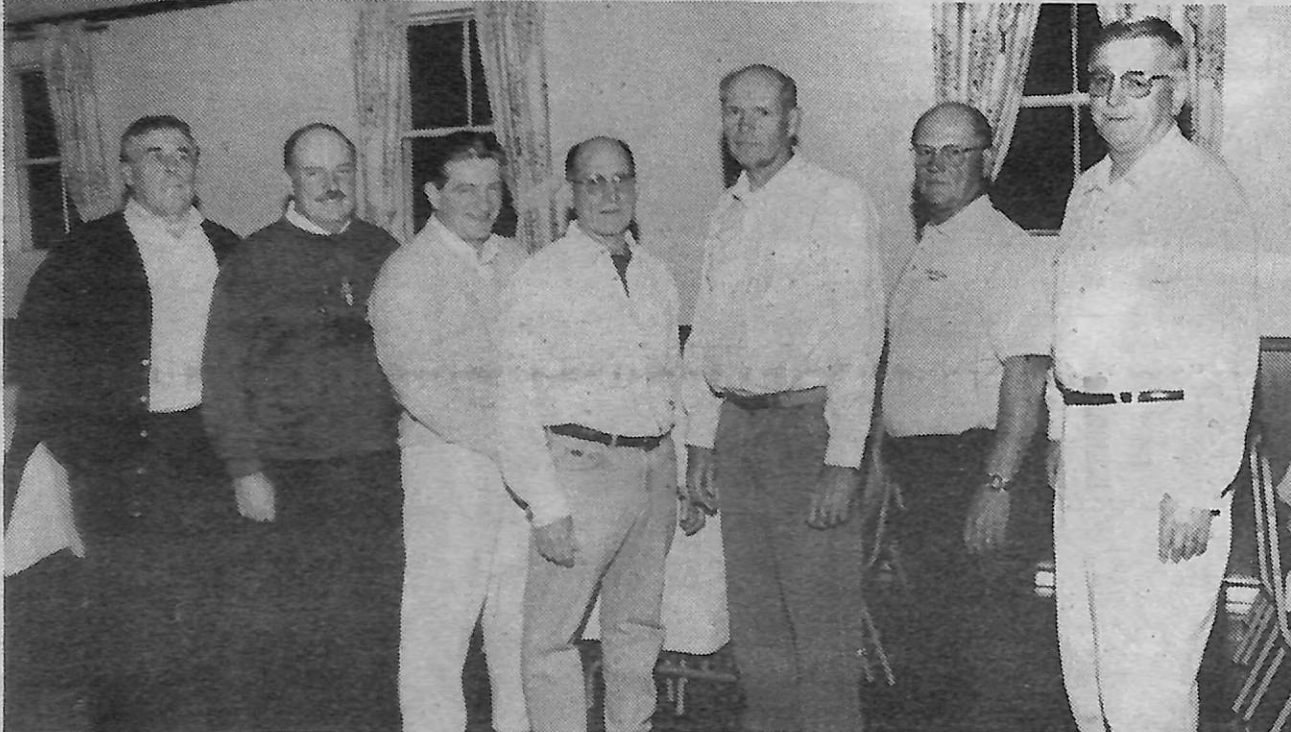
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Hail Agawam Football Of 1957!!!



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL 1957 football team, considered one of the best in the school's long and illustrious football history, held their 40-year reunion at the Polish American Club on Saturday, October 11th. IN TOP PHOTO are members of the gang; in photo below are committee members - Walt McCarthy, Len Charest, David Ferrarini, Ken Mutti, Ed Modzelewski, Joe Modzelewski, and Fred Uschmann. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Open Ski Sale On November 2nd At Blandford Ski Club

The Springfield Ski Club is sponsoring an Open House and Ski Sale on Sunday, November 2nd from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at The Blandford Ski Area in Blandford (just one-half hour west of Springfield, off Route 20).

The ski sale features up to 75 percent off on outerwear, skis, boots, boards, and accessories. There will be used equipment for every budget and a ski swap area for just plain folk to sell their stuff.

The Springfield Ski Club is offering a special membership rate at the Open House of just \$169 per person saving \$20 off the regular rate.

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MEMBERS OF THE OAK RIDGE LADIES 9 HOLE LEAGUE, from left - Alice Orr, Ginny Abraham (league chairwoman), Joan Williams, Patti Carpenter, Nancy Caron, Rose Modzelesky, Pat Cressotti, and Priscilla Silliman (last four were the winning team) at the October 9th field day.

Oak Ridge Ladies 9ers Hold Field Day With Pro Jim Modzelesky

On Thursday, October 9th, the Oak Ridge Ladies 9 Hole League held its Field Day. Twenty-four ladies (plus golf pro Jim Modzelesky) participated in the event.

A 9 Hole Scramble Tournament was followed by a putting contest and luncheon with the tournament awards presentation.

The net scramble event was won by the team of Nancy Caron, Rose Madzelesky, Pat Cressotti, and Priscilla Silliman with a score of 24.5.

They were followed by Alice Smith, Sue Nilsen, Ronnie Alexander, and Lori DePalma, with a score of 25.5; Barbara Child, Linda Longhi, Lynn Modzelesky, and Alyce Shapiro, 25.5; Wendy Thomka, Gloria Mador, Esther Ormsby, and Joan Bedard, 27; Joan Williams, Ginny Abraham, Alice Orr, and Patti Carpenter, 30; and Betty Walsh, Edie Shapiro, Nancy Armstrong, and Bert Fournier, 31.

Nearest to the pin winners were Nancy Caron, Bert Fournier, and Sue Nilsen.

Long drive champ and putting contest winner was Nancy Caron, and most accurate tee shot honors went to Ginny Abraham.



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Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up

U-12 ASA Lightning Takes Second Place At Cape Cod Tourney

The Agawam Lightning girls' under 12 soccer team participated in the Cape Cod Open Soccer Tournament this past Columbus Day Weekend.

The team enjoyed the picturesque surroundings of Cape Cod, the sun, and the festivities that took place as part of Yarmouth's Annual Seaside Festival. The weather was perfect, and the team played sensationally.

In the opening game of the tournament on Saturday, The Lightning tied Sandwich 1-1 on a goal by Sara Skolnick and exemplary goaltending by Meghan Kelly.

On Sunday, in the second game of the tournament, The Lightning faced old foe Suffield, CT. The Lightning were led by four goals by Amanda Janik and enjoyed standout goaltending by Megan Gloster, which led to a 4-2 victory.

The Lightning played Yarmouth, the host team of the tournament, for their second game on Sunday. In a tense game, The Lightning prevailed 3-0 on goals from Megan Gloster, Meghan Kelly, and Amanda Janik. Strong play by Ashley Smith, Caitlin Foley, Tory Lyons, Sara Skolnick, and Bethany Reid helped to control the middle of the field, which allowed The Lightning to reach the semifinals.

On Monday morning, The Lightning played Simsbury, CT, the defending state of Connecticut champions. The game was played at a fever pitch. All the girls played with tremendous emotion, desire, and heart. Every ball was contested and the team played as a unit. As a result of Amy Proulx's hard work, Amanda Janik scored on a direct kick. This turned out to be the only goal of the



TEAM MEMBERS of the Agawam Lightning, runners-up in the Cape Cod Columbus Day Tournament. Back row - Coaches Rich Gloster, Don Smith, Patrick Kelly, and Scott Skolnick. Third row - Rachel (Rach) Keenan, Katherine (Bitz) Bitzas, Sara (Moose) Skolnick, and Caitlin (Pebbles) Foley. Second row - Laura (Steve) Pederson, Amanda (Fred) Janik, Jen Miarecki, Meghan (Boomer) Ennis, Ashley (Smitty) Smith, and Tory (Taz) Lyons. Front row - Pavlina (Beans) Moysis, Megan (Bam-Bam) Gloster, Meghan (Cuz) Kelly, Amy Proulx, and Bethany (Badger) Reid.

game, as The Lightning prevailed 1-0, and avenged their loss to Simsbury in the semifinals of the Agawam Riverside Classic. The Lightning were recognized and congratulated for their efforts and

success, not only by their own families, friends, and fans, but also by other teams and their supporters.

SEE LIGHTNING - Page 50...

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Pioneer Valley Soccer - continued...

LIGHTNING - from Page 49...

The Lightning faced Foxborough in the finals of the Cape Cod Open. This game was played only 40 minutes after the conclusion of the semifinal. The Lightning again played at a high level of skill and effort, but unfortunately lost 4-3 in double overtime. In a strong display of sportsmanship, both teams' players congratulated each other on the game as did their families and supporters.

A special recognition goes to Bethany Reid for her outstanding play as sweeper as she set the tempo for the games and was the team's on-field general. The team also received strong defense work and physical play from Pavlina Moysis, Tory Lyons, Laura Pederson, and Jen Miarecki.

Amy Proulx and Rachel Keenan played well at wing and halfback. Katherine Bitzas proved to be very valuable as she contributed at forward, halfback, and fullback and also scored. Meghan Ennis contributed to the team's success despite being bothered by injuries. Meghan Kelly and Megan Gloster split time at the goaltender position and on the field and were highly effective.

Ashley Smith was a physical presence throughout the tournament. Caitlin Foley played a consistently strong game at half-back. Sara Skolnick was vital to the team at center halfback and at forward. Amanda Janik was simply sensational throughout the weekend. Special thanks to Assistant Coach Patrick Kelly for all his efforts in getting the girls ready for their games.

The tournament was a tremendous success for the team. The team enjoyed each other's company at their first overnight tournament. They captured second place in a very competitive tournament. The Lightning certainly proved once again that they have the proper spirit to play soccer in a skillful, motivated, and entertaining manner as they soared to victory.

Special thanks go the girls' parents and extended families for all their help and support for making the weekend an unforgettable memory.

U-10 Girls - "Hot Shots"

This past weekend brought the Hot Shots to their biggest high yet. Our game on Saturday matched us up with Holy Cross. Whenever we play Holy Cross, you can bet that it will be a good challenge for the Hot Shots, and it was just that.

It started out just like all the other games with them, where anything their core team was fed, turned into defensive work for the Hot Shots. During the five-minute mark, our center forward found a way by their defense and was able to smash the ball through their goalie into the net. Oh, what a treat that was.

This really sparked the Hot Shots and they became a more aggressive, passing, challenging team. The girls were pumped up at halftime with the score Hot Shots 1, Holy Cross 0. Now there's a halftime "0" we love to see.

In the second half, our girls (still fired up) came out and were finally able to contain Holy Cross's core players and took them out of the play. The Hot Shots did not let up once the whole game. After four seasons of losing to this team, the girls finally broke the string of wins for Holy Cross by beating them 1-0.

This was one of those games you keep looking for and knew they could play. Hot Shots, thank you for a great, well-played game. Everyone's effort and teamwork in this game was outstanding and helped contribute to make it a game to remember, and the win was just icing on the cake.

Sunday's game put us in Stanley Park against Westfield. The weather was quite cold and, after losing to us in the first match, we knew they would be ready to play us. It didn't take long for things to get heated in this game ... and I will leave it at that.

The Hot Shots were probably still on their high from the day before and just couldn't put anything together. It was a tough game and we are proud of the girls for hanging in on this one. This WAR ended in a 2-0 loss.

Soccer is meant to be fun and this coming weekend we will play AJAC from Chicopee and the Ludlow Lions. It will be nice to end our season playing two teams that we have had fun with in the past.

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PETER & SANDY SAVENKO (facing camera) of Agawam, owners of Savenko Family Catering, brought a delicious lunchtime meal to the Columbus Day Weekend Soccer Tournament in Windsor for members of the Agawam U-13 Tigers and their families to enjoy. Their daughter, **Melissa** (center), is an original member of the team (since third grade).

U-13 Girls - "Tigers"

The U-13 Agawam Tigers finished the regular season in sole possession of second place in the first division of the Pioneer Valley Junior Girls' Soccer League after a hardfought 1-0 victory over Westfield at picturesque Stanley Park on Tuesday evening, October 21st.

The important victory propelled the Tigers to a strong record of 9-3-2. The team will now play third place Ludlow Cyclones in the upcoming U-13 girls' first division semi-finals.

Against the physical and intense Westfield side, the Tigers controlled the first half and maintained strong pressure in the home team's end. The front line of Danielle Cirillo, Meaghan Brown, and Kaitlin Sardella each had several good opportunities to score, as did left wing Maureen Quinlan. Halfbacks Aimee Beaudette (very strong offensive showing), Whitney Brown, Jen Sharpe, and Nicole Gendreau played strong in the midfield to keep the territorial advantage in the Tigers' favor.

But the half ended in a scoreless tie. Ten minutes into the second half, striker Danielle Cirillo sent a nifty feed down the right wing to

Kaitlin Sardella, who beat the Westfield fullback to the ball and lofted a shot over the goalie's head from the 18-yard mark for her 14th goal of the season.

Following the goal, the game's intensity picked-up considerably. Westfield began to apply some pressure on fullbacks Tricia Fitchben, Whitney Brown, Vicky Taylor (first half goalie), and sweeper Kim Hoague, who played a great final 10 minutes when Westfield had several opportunities to score.

Melissa Savenko, who played center halfback in the second 30 minutes, also performed well.

Second half goalie Sherri Laskowski preserved the shutout with some excellent goaltending, including a diving stop in the near-darkness on a ball marked for the net in the final few seconds. The Tigers had defeated Westfield, 2-1 in the first meeting between the two sides.

On Saturday, October 18th, the Wilbraham Falcons visited the Tigers at the Junior High School for a late morning game. It ended in a 1-1 deadlock although the Tigers controlled the first

SEE PIONEER VALLEY SOCCER - Page 51



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PIONEER VALLEY SOCCER - from Page 50...

half and had the better scoring opportunities in a more even second half.

The Tigers came out storming in this one and kept the Falcons pinned in their own end for the first 15 minutes. The locals scored 10 minutes in when Kaitlin Sardella's corner kick bounced 10 yards in front of the goal and was volleyed in by halfback Jen Sharpe.

A few minutes later, the Falcons scored on their only chance of the half to tie it. The Tigers then continued to control the play before the first 30 minutes ended.

The second half saw the Falcons pick up their play to thwart the Tigers from continuing their big territorial edge. Goalie Vicky Taylor was once again in excellent form, as were sweeper Kim Hogue and fullbacks Tricia Fitchben and Danielle Cirillo (who just about completely shut down her side of the field for the entire game).

Whitney Brown and Melissa Savenko helped Agawam keep a strong hold on the midfield area from the center halfback and center fullback positions, respectively. Halfback Aimee Beaudette also looked good, especially in the first half. The Tigers had defeated the Falcons, 1-0 earlier in the season.

The team members and parents sincerely thank head Coach Ed Brown and assistant Coaches Joe Ruhl and Dave LaPlante for all their time and effort in guiding the team to such a fine season.

U-9 Boys - "Ball Hogs"

A tough weekend of soccer for the Agawam Ball Hogs.

On Saturday, the Ball Hogs hosted Northampton. The Ball Hogs dominated the game and got on the scoreboard early in the first half with an awesome goal by Anthony DePalma. Strong defense and outstanding ball-handling kept Northampton at bay until the second half when they scored, tying up the game, 1-1.

On Sunday, the Agawam Ball Hogs travelled to Ludlow. Despite the Ball Hogs' strong execution of passing and ball control, Ludlow proved to be too much for the Hogs, who lost 4-0.

The Ball Hogs' front linesmen kept the pressure on throughout the entire game, with numerous shots on goal. Strong teamwork and a "never quit" attitude kept the Ball Hogs working hard throughout the entire game.

The Ball Hogs' record stands at 6-3-2.

U-14 Boys - "Rockets"

Saturday morning saw the Rockets travel to Easthampton to resume the balance of the regular season.

After a slow start by the team, John Lynch finally got the Rockets on the board as he beat the defense to a loose ball in the goal box and drove it into the goal for a 1-0 lead. Brian Knight added a goal with just over a minute to go in the half to make the score 2-0 at halftime.

In the second half, Mike DeCaro, Vinny Outhuse, and Jamie DelPeschio kept the ball up in the opponent's end and allowed Brian Knight to score his second goal of the game. Nick DePalma added two goals and the game ended with a 5-0 Rockets victory. Shawn Mercadante recorded his fifth shutout of the regular season in goal.

On Sunday, the Rockets traveled to Springfield to play at Smith & Wesson, a site that has not been good for this Agawam team in the past. Things proved no different on this day, as the Rockets ran into a fired-up Springfield United team.

Agawam was unable to capitalize on some early-scoring opportunities, but the defense led by Mike Carmody, Matt Zajdel, Brian McGuire, and Tony Valenti, coupled with the goaltending of Evan Machos, held their opponents in check for a 0-0 tie at the half.

The game continued up and down the field through most of the second half, with neither team being able to get the ball into the opponent's net. Springfield finally slipped a man through the defense and scored the only goal of the game in the half, as they handed the Rockets their first loss of the season — a hard-fought, 1-0 defeat.

U-10 Boys - "Cheetahs"

As the soccer season draws to an end, the Cheetahs have started to really come together as a team. Even in a 4-0 loss to Brookside on Saturday, the boys played hard and never gave up.

On Sunday, the team played perhaps its best game yet. Under overcast skies and chilly winds, the effort displayed by every player was everything the coaches, parents, and fans have come to expect from this team. The Cheetahs scored first and it was Jeff Stanton beating an aggressive defense to give Agawam an early lead.

North Branch tied the score to end the first half. John Leydon, who was just recovering from flu-type symptoms and was still very weak, booted the Cheetahs' second goal. Strong passing and unselfish play was a key factor in this whole game.

North Branch scored their second goal from in close after an initial save by Anthony Ardolino. In what at times seems to be routine or taken for granted is the hard-nose play by defensive stalwarts Joe Bushey, Steve Powers, Mike Theriault, Nick Pokora, and Dan Comee when not in goal. Once again, their hustle kept at bay a determined opponent.

As the game was winding down and the expected results (another tie) were to be registered, Sam Mancini kicked what was the Cheetahs last and winning goal. The offense was spear-headed by Dave Zaffetti and Joey Greaney, even though neither scored.

This was truly a team effort and a team victory. The final score — 3-2.

U-9 Girls - "Twisters"

On Saturday, the Agawam Twisters were supposed to meet the Chicopee AJAC, but the kids from Chicopee were a "no show." Instead, the Twisters scrimmaged a Northampton U-9 boys team, and the final score was Twisters 0, Northampton 1. The girls gave the boys a good run. (Great job, Twisters!)

On Sunday, the Twisters resoundly defeated Ludlow by the score of 5-0. Stephanie Obue had a great game and her first hat-trick in the first half. Sarah Roos made the fourth goal of the game with a great assist by Cassie Ashwell.

The fifth (and final) goal was made by Cassie Ashwell. The Twisters are doing a great job with passing the ball and playing positions.

Goalie Michelle Santos saved the one shot on goal due to the fullbacks and halfbacks playing great.

Agawam Soccer Association Standings (As Of 10/19/97)

UNDER 10 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Gold	9	0	0	18
Pfau's Royal Blue	4	2	3	11
Brewster's Maroon	4	2	2	10
Maloney's Blue Lightning	4	4	1	9
Gould's Orange	4	6	1	9
Wood's Green	2	6	0	4
Klimczak's Red	0	7	1	1

UNDER 12 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Adams' Blue Lightning	6	1	2	14
Zmaczynski's Big Green	5	2	1	11
Patrick's Blue Sonic	5	4	0	10
Chiclana's Golden Eagles	4	4	2	10
Francis' Orange Crushers	4	3	1	9
Rollins' Red Hot Peppers	2	5	2	6
Morace's Maroon	1	8	0	2

UNDER 14 COED	W	L	T	P
Southwick	8	0	0	16
Fournier's Royal Blue	5	3	1	11
Heneghan's Red	5	3	0	10
Spear's Green	3	5	1	5
Hamre's Orange	1	5	1	3
Fleming's Blue Vikings	0	5	3	3

UNDER 17 COED	W	L	T	P
Kelly's Navy Blue	7	0	0	14
Cincotta's Big Green II	5	2	0	10
Gaffney's Red	2	5	0	4
Fleming's Orange Stingrays	0	7	0	0

U12 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Blue Hawks	7	0	0	14
Harlow's Fighting Irish	4	1	2	10
Ferreira's Knights	3	3	2	8
Martin's Gold Lightning	3	3	1	7
Myers' Red Storm	1	5	1	3
Moysis' Strikers	0	6	0	0

U10 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Nawskon's Lightning	7	0	2	16
Foley's Green Machine	5	2	1	11
Gonyeau's Red Dogs	5	3	1	11
Sabola's Minutemen	5	3	0	10
Mokrzycki's Golden Warriors	4	5	0	8
Holmes' Blue Bombers	1	6	1	3
Skolnick's Men In Black	0	8	1	1

To Council & Mayor Candidates:

The public is interested in your position on the important ballot question on November 4th: "Should Berkshire Power Construct & Operate A Power Plant In The Town of Agawam?" Please submit a BRIEF PRESS RELEASE on your position. IF YES, WHY? IF NO, WHY NOT? The absolute deadline for this is Tuesday at noon. We will publish all of the responses as part of our ANNUAL ELECTION EDITION on Thursday, October 30th (again, let's keep them concise). If you do not respond, then it will be listed in that way. Thank-you.

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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

An All-Time High For Outdoor Activity

With the opening of the upland game season, activity for the outdoorsman is at an all-time high.

Fall fishing is about at its peak in both the fresh and salt water arenas. Wildlife management areas have been stocked with pheasant, and grouse hunters are banging away in the woods and forests.

One of the most often asked questions put forward by most casual hunters is, "Where are the birds?" Pheasant hunting in the Valley is not necessarily a put and take proposition. Once the birds are stocked, the birds will acclimate to their new surroundings quite quickly.

Shrinking habitat and areas closed to hunting have limited the areas where a good bird dog can be worked. Nice-looking areas near busy roads are a hazard to your four-legged hunting companion. Increased urban sprawl has further encroached on our areas.

The edges of wood lots where they meet open field areas can be prime spots. Don't confine your hunting to just the open fields. This is especially true when the hunting pressure is heavy.

Pheasants that have been flushed by hunters or dogs will often fly for a considerable distance into wooded areas before touching down. Try hunting several hundred yards into the wooded edge areas if you know that other hunters have been working the fields before you.

As always, hunter orange must be worn and everyone must take care that the field of fire is not in the direction of others.

Have a great week in our great New England outdoors.

FISH REPORTS FRESH WATER

Connecticut River smallmouth action has been an up and down proposition. Try deep-water jigging in the main creek channels.

Congamond Lakes, more specifically Middle Pond, is giving up some dandy Atlantic Salmon brood stock that were supplied by the division. Most anglers are taking them near the surface on a variety of spinners and tandem fly combinations.

Five Mile Pond in Springfield also received some Atlantics, and reports indicate that there are still some left for the persistent angler.

SALT WATER

On the offshore scene, most of the tuna have departed, but a few good sharks remain.

Surf casters are having good luck along the Rhode Island beaches and breachways. Strippers predominate, with occasional schools of big bluefish showing up.

Boat anglers are scoring on blues from Watch Hill Reef to Block Island and the rips at Montauk. Parachute jigs tipped with Pork O's or Mario Strips and worked on wire line trolled around the rips are the ticket.

The fall migration is in swing and "here today, gone tomorrow" is the norm. Persistence at this time of year can result in some of the largest strippers of the year.

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TEAM MEMBERS of The Grizzlies, champs of the Sacred Heart Athletic Association's DPL. Back row - Coaches Dan Illicky, Jerry Allen, and Tony Pioggia. Middle row - Josh Illicky, Nick Pioggia, Nico Connor, Kevin Daubitz, and Phil Mokrzycki. Front row - Anthony Jimenez, Tommy Ellis, Matt Gushue, Nick Allen, and Nick Goss.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Grizzlies Take Sacred Heart AA's Designated Pitching League Playoffs

After compiling a regular season record of 7-2, the Grizzlies of the SHAA DPL (Designated Pitching League) took the playoffs from the regular season champs by defeating them 4-1.

Both teams demonstrated fine defensive play in this exciting finale. The Grizzlies were led offensively by Tommy Ellis (three hits, two runs scored), Josh Illicky (three hits, including a triple), and Nick Allen (one triple, one RBI).

Although being one of the youngest teams in

the league, this team showed poise throughout the year.

This year's champs were led by catchers Kevin Daubitz and Tommy Ellis; infielders Nick Pioggia, Phil Mokrzycki, Anthony Jimenez, Josh Illicky, and Nick Allen; and outfielders Nick Goss, Matt Gushue, Nico "Hollywood" Connor, Dustin Petrucci, and Mike Cassanelli.

Congratulations, champs!

Famous Agawam Angler Al Gagliarducci Places 4th At Tournament Of Champions

Outfishing some of the biggest names in national competition bass fishing, Agawam resident Al Gagliarducci ("Al Gag") took fourth place in the pro division of the Black Velvet Tournament of Champions. The tournament was held on Saturday and Sunday, October 11th-12th on the Connecticut River in Hartford.

The top two places were nationally known BASS pros Pete Gluscek of Franklinville, New Jersey and Mike McLelland of Springdale, Arkansas. Earlier this year, McLelland was the first pro in 17 years to win back-to-back Bassmasters Top 100 events. Third place was taken by Jim Kuca of Ellington, Connecticut.

Gagliarducci won \$2,500 for his efforts and finished ahead of three nationally known pros and a number of prominent regional competitors. Further down the list were BASS pros Chris Daniels of Garner, North Carolina (who earlier this year was the first \$100,000 winner in bass fishing history in the Forrest L. Wood event in Lake

Okeechobee, Florida) and Harold Allen of Hurley, Mississippi, who has qualified for the Bassmaster Classic event 12 times, one of a very small number of people in bass fishing history to do this.

Also in the field were female bass pro and national celebrity Kathy Magers of Rockwall, Texas and a number of formidable local and regional competitors.

In the amateur division, West Springfield native Ed Rosienski III took third place. There were a total of 27 boats in the tournament, which paid out \$40,000 in cash and prizes against a total of \$16,000 in entry fee money. Organizers believe that this is one of the highest percentage payouts for this type of tournament the area has seen for a long time.

The Black Velvet Tournament of Champions was taped as an episode of the nationally syndicated television series, "Yankee Fishing."

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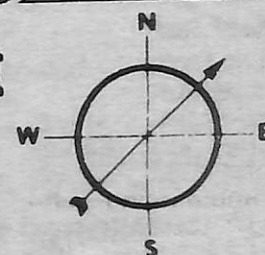
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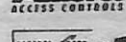
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TAG SALE: Sat., Oct. 25th, 10 AM - 4 PM. Garden & hand tools, small girls' clothing (sizes 2-6), 7 foot toboggan, flex. flyer sled, men's hockey skates, dishes, glassware, elec. leaf blower, and many misc. items. 88 Raymond Circle, Agawam.

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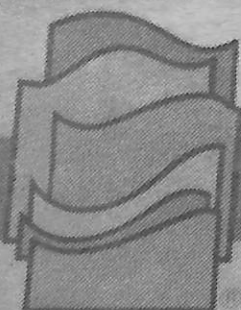
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